

Facts for the Home-Seeker
and Capitalist.

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BEFORE TROUGHT ACHER

ASSEMBLED AND PUBLISHED BY
The Ardmoreite
SEPTEMBER 1, 1890

The Great Distributing Point
for the Indian Territory.

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Facts for the Home-Seeker
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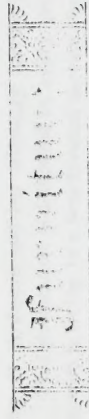
FRONT TROUGH CHIEF

The Great Distilling Point
for the Indian Territory.

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY
The Ardmoreite
ARDMORE, T. SEPTEMBER 11

C. R. JONES.

... DEALER IN ...



Carpets, Murings, Oil Cloth,

Window Shades,

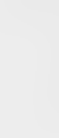
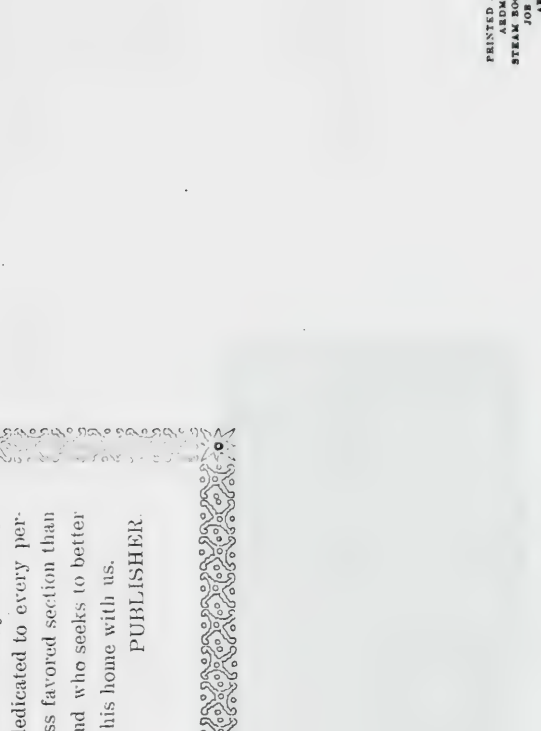
Poles, Etc



ARMORE, IND. TER.



Will Occupy the Brady Corner September 15. Corner Springer and Main Streets.



PREFACE

CARE has been taken in compiling this booklet, to set forth facts only concerning the City of Ardmore and her tributary territory.

This publication is dedicated to every person who is living in a less favored section than the Chickasaw Nation, and who seeks to better his condition by making his home with us.

PUBLISHER.



VIEW FROM ELEVATOR. SHOWING ARDMORE IN DISTANCE.

The Chickasaw Nation.

OF THE Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory, consisting of the Chickasaws, Choctaws, Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles, the first named, which embraces within its boundaries Ardmore, is the most fortunate in fertility of soil, untold mineral wealth, and healthfulness of climate.

Under treaty with the United States, the Chickasaw tribe has an established form of government which, by its Constitution, is divided into three Departments, the Legislative, the Executive and the Judicial.

The Legislature is composed of a Senate and House of Representatives, the members of the upper House being elected for two years and the representatives for one year. None but a Chickasaw by birth or adoption is eligible to any public office. Tishomingo is the National capital, and there it is that the Legislature convenes each year on the first Monday in September. The laws enacted by that august body have, in the main, been wise, equitable and just, and in many instances worthy of adoption by some of the states. Treason, murder and larceny (the last on third conviction) are capital offenses. Executions are by hanging. The lash figures conspicuously in criminal offenses, and seems to have had a wholesome effect in the suppression of crime.

The Chickasaw laws apply only to members of the tribe, the white man being held amenable to the United States authorities alone. Under the tribal Constitution, and laws subsequently enacted, the people are held secure in their freedom of body, speech and religion. Game is protected, as is growing timber, minerals, etc. No mineral lands can ever be sold, the revenue derived from same being in royalties which are paid into the National Treasury for the benefit of the tribe. The revenue

derived from mining and land leases amounts annually to a handsome sum, and is supplemented by an annual one per cent tax on goods carried in stock by merchants, the permit tax of one dollar per capita levied on all foreigners living in the Nation, and by other methods. However, these taxes have never proven irksome and are cheerfully paid by all the law-abiding element.

The Executive Department has for its head a Chief Magistrate, styled "The Governor of the Chickasaw Nation," who holds office two years. His authority is nearly identical with that of the governors of the different states. The other officers of the Executive Department are a National Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor of Public Accounts, and an Attorney General.

The Judicial Department is composed of one Supreme Court, several District Courts, and such County Courts as the Legislature may, from time to time, ordain and establish.

The peace officers consist of a Sheriff for each county and his deputies. Prosecutions are conducted by the District Attorney.

This brief outline will suffice to let those interested know in a general way something of the Indian laws and form of government in the Chickasaw Nation.

But it is doubtful whether there will ever be another Indian Governor. The Dawes Commission and the townsie appraisers are visible, and powerful arguments that the end is not far off. The civilized tribes are an enlightened people; they have proven to the world that they are capable of sustaining a good government. Their law-makers are wise and honest men, men who would be conspicuous in the legislative halls of any nation on earth. But the unseen, all-powerful hand of Destiny has decreed that the course of empire shall take its way toward the setting

sun. The Anglo-Saxon race has overrun the land to the east, and is at last to transform the Indian Territory, the American Eden, from its glorious rustic beauty into a thousand throbbing cities, full of life, bustle and envious rivalry.

Old mother earth will soon be made to give of her rich store of coal, asphaltum, silver, lead and zinc. The virgin forests will be cut down and fashioned into innumerable devices for man's

use. The rich soil will be made to produce an hundred fold, to support the teeming thousands of the near future. With the allotment of lands about to be made to the Indians in severalty, and with the immediate appraisement of all town property and sale of same in fee simple to the white men, the last obstacle in the way to the magical, phenomenal growth of this section will be removed.



CITY OF ARDMORE,

THE BIGGEST CITY IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY. SOME FACTS.

The Past.

"LET the dead past bury its dead." The object of this little book is not to supplant the history of the United States now in use, but to tell of what exists here today and something of future prospects.

However, Ardmore's birth dates back just twelve years from July 24, 1894. The little hamlet became a village in due course of time, and where, at the start, were only a few scattered cabins, neat cottage and a sprinkling of stores greeted the eye.

In its early stages of evolution, when the laws of the Territory were lax, and there were few business enterprises established, the lawless element were very much in evidence. In fact, the whole Territory was overrun with a reckless, desperate class, many of whom left their native states for their states' good, and incidentally, their own. But, as time went on and the country became more thickly populated, the United States gave to the Indian Territory full jurisdiction over felony as well as civil cases, and instead of having to go to Fort Smith, Ark., (three hundred miles) for trial, and later to Paris, Tex., (one hundred and fifty

miles), all criminal cases for the past three years have been tried before the United States court in the Territory. The long distance to the tribunal of justice made the people very loath to become witnesses against evil doers, and thus retarded the final onsting of the lawless element.

The law-abiding citizens of the country assisted the United States officials in making it unpleasant for these bad men, and they were soon reduced to such a hopeless minority that they ceased entirely to make themselves in any way conspicuous, and today they belong to the past, remembered only in song and story, and also by a dozen or more mounds over in the grave yard, where Christian burial was awarded them, in spite of their un-Christian, by-gone, reckless lives.

The Present.

Today Ardmore has, approximately, 7000 people living within the corporate limits. Most of these citizens are comfortably supplied with the good things of life, and a few are rich. Nearly every man here made what he now has after his arrival, and if there is anyone doing business hereabouts in this year of Our

Lord who hasn't got more than he had when he made his initial bow to the people of the Chickasaw Nation, we know him not, neither his name nor his avocation. This goes to show that well directed effort invariably meets a just reward in this locality.

The town is laid out in conformity with the points of the compass. Main street, on either side of which are the principal business buildings of Ardmore, runs east and west, the Santa Fe railroad being near the eastern terminus of the present business portion of this thoroughfare. A

majority of the store buildings are of brick or stone, and some of them are edifices of much beauty. Several streets intersecting Main at right angles are now lined on both sides for some distance with business houses. The residence portion of the city extends in every direction, covering over 3000 acres. The writer has traveled much, but has never seen a greater number of handsome houses in a city of the same size than can be found here. This speaks well for the citizens who have not even got a title to the ground upon which they have placed so many substantial improvements. However, as stated elsewhere, the board of town site appraisers will soon set a value on all of this property, and the present "quit claim owners" will be enabled then to get a title with your Uncle Samuel's hand-write on the grantor side.

This inability to secure perfect title to property up to the present has done much to retard the erection of fine churches though all of the denominations have very comfortable places of worship. Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist, Catholic,

Christian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Christian Scientists, and each with a place to worship according to the different creeds, is a summary of the religious situation.

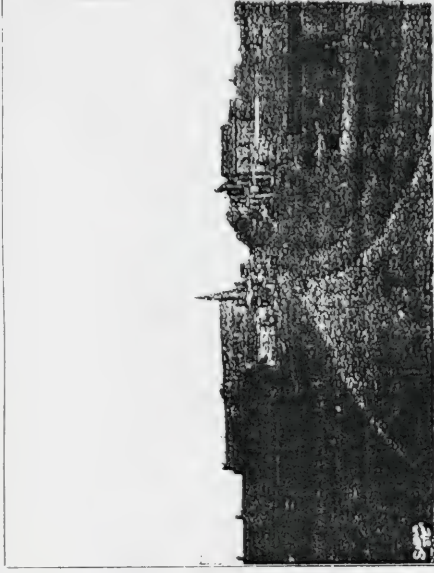
In the matter of public schools there are none, but arrangements are being perfected to establish a public school system by fall, with every prospect of success. There are a number of private educational institutions, where the higher, as well as elementary branches, are taught by experienced instructors.

The municipal government of Ardmore is identical with that of thousands of towns throughout the United States, having Mayor, Police Judge, Aldermen, City Attorney, City Clerk, City Engineer, City Tax Assessor and Collector, Chief of Police, Street Commissioner, City Scavenger and Fire Department.

The Chief of Police, as a rule has an easy time, for, be it known, Ardmore is a law and order town. You see, there are no saloons here, and that means no drinks. Very few mortals feel like creating a disturbance without the assistance of John Barleycorn, and not being able to secure any backing from the above named gentleman, the cat-aboose is almost chronically

empty. Recently the United States Government has been so diligent in prosecuting those who introduce whiskey or malt liquors into the Territory that the violation of this law has been almost entirely suppressed.

The water supply is mostly from surface wells, though there is an abundance of artesian water to be found at a depth of about one hundred feet within two miles of the city.



SHOWING MAIN STREET FROM SANTA FE, N.M.

Among the enterprises already in full blast here may be enumerated the following: Oil mill, cotton compress, ice factory, cold storage plant, several gins, both square and round bale, two brick kilns, lumber yards, planing mill, roller mill and elevator, electric light plant, marble works, bottling works, machine shop, steam laundry, two banks, hotels and an opera house. What we need above everything else is a water works system and a street railway, though there are unlimited opportunities for the successful operation of manufacturing plants of different kinds. The ones who start small plants in the near future will be in on the ground floor, and in a position to take advantage of the rapid growth of the whole section.

The immense yields of cotton, corn, wheat, oats and garden truck this year, should and will result in a greater degree of prosperity this fall and winter than ever before in the history of the Indian Territory. Wheat in many places averaged twenty-five bushels, oats seventy-five bushels, while cotton bids fair to make a bale to the acre.

Cattle are rolling in fat, and the grass is knee deep for hundreds of miles around.

Now tell us, most gentle reader, tell us why we shouldn't call this little book a "Good Times" Edition. Lives there a man with soul so dead within the city limits of Ardmore, as to fail of appreciating the bounteous blessings fairly inundating this, his adopted home? No, there cannot be; such a being could not exist.

The Future.

We have written of the past, have endeavored to give the reader a brief sketch of things as they exist today, and will now tell in a conservative way of the changes that will undoubtedly take place within the next few years.

The dawn of an era of prosperity throughout the United States, the restoration of confidence in the money centers, and the congested condition of population in the older states, are admitted by all. Capital, ever on the lookout for profitable and safe investment, has already cast about for new opportunities in new countries. The gates to the Indian Territory have finally been thrown

open. With the allotment of her lands her enterprising inhabitants will soon secure indisputable title to their properties, and then Ardmore, the queen city of the richest country on earth, will make the most phenomenal growth ever witnessed by the American people. Railroad after railroad will pass through her corporate limits. The vast coal veins which underlay the whole country for miles around, will be operated on a gigantic scale and give steady employment to thousands of laborers, which will increase the population of Ardmore and her tributary territory to over one hundred thousand people.

Within a few miles of Ardmore is found crude petroleum, flowing away on the surface of the springs. Samples of this oil have been tested on high-speed machinery, and found to do the work of the refined product. No attempt has been made to secure this splendid lubricant in paying quantities, but the time is near at hand when, we believe, the sound of the drill will be heard all over the beautiful surrounding hills, and it is not unreasonable to picture the future city of Ardmore as the Pittsburgh of the South.

Asphaltum in immense quantities is found right at the gates of the city. Already a considerable amount has been shipped to Kansas City and refined. In quality it is said to be superior to the South American product, which commands the highest price in the market. With absolutely unlimited beds of asphaltum at our very doors, and of such excellent quality, what an additional factor we have toward the phenomenal growth in wealth and population of the city.

Silver ore has been found in paying quantities as also have lead, copper and zinc, but the country is new, and very little prospecting for minerals has been undertaken as yet.

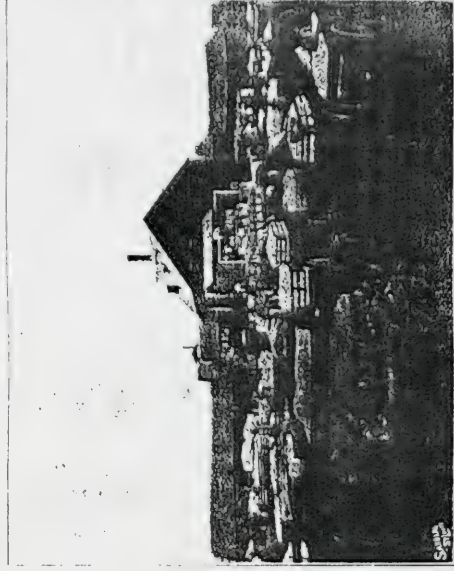
The fertility of the soil, the diversity of crops which can be successfully grown, and the healthfulness of the climate and abundance of pure water are additional reasons tending to convince even the most skeptical that our predictions as to the future greatness of this part of the Indian Territory are based on facts. The time is coming, is almost here, when millions in money will be invested in this section. Before another five years have flown, the city of Ardmore will have donned metropolitan airs and will have increased in population and wealth ten fold.

BLANTON, RAY AND COMPANY.

THE first large gin put up in the Indian Territory was the one erected by Blanton, Ray and Company in Ardmore in 1894. B. F. Blanton, J. S. Blanton and J. D. Ray composing the firm, of which J. S. Blanton is manager, are experienced ginners, and came here from White-wright, Texas, as did also their competent bookkeeper, I. E. Teague, where they were engaged in the same business, as well as being interested in the electric light plant at that place.

These men showed their faith in the future of this section by investing many thousands of dollars in a plant here, and as their business has steadily increased each succeeding year, their good judgment becomes more apparent. Every year improvements have been made to the end that their customers might have their products handled in the most satisfactory

manner possible, and this season more extensive additions than ever are being made in the way of mill buildings for increasing the corn and cotton capacity. During the five seasons the gin has been operated, nearly 17,000 bales of cotton have been ginned, more than any other gin in this section has handled. The plant consists of eight gins, latest improved Munger system, and the American Cotton Company's round bale system, thus giving the producer an opportunity to pay his money and take his choice of



prices and full weight for their corn, and where they can secure sound advice concerning the best method of disposing of their cotton. The firm is constantly in touch with the market, and in a position to know what is for the mutual good of themselves and their hundreds of customers, each and everyone of whom is a living walking advertisement for this business-like, honest, liberal firm, representing the most substantial and progressive enterprise of its kind in the Territory.

the two different styles of bales. There is also in operation a grist and crushed feed mill and corn sheller. Meal is made for the town trade and customers. The mill books show the names of over 750 farmers who are customers, and who, in some cases, haul their crops over thirty miles to this place, realizing that they will here receive fair and courteous treatment. It takes time for a company or an individual to gain a reputation for fair, honest dealing, especially in these days of short weights and close competition, but Blanton, Ray and Company have long since gained the confidence of every man with whom they have had business dealings, and it is due to their enviable reputation in this respect that they owe their large and constantly increasing trade. The business of the firm embraces the buying of seed cotton and cotton seed and corn in the cotton gin, and the buying of seed cotton and considerable wholesale business is done, and much more will be done as the demand increases. It is well that the farmers of this locality have a place to haul their crops to where they know that their interests will be closely looked after, where they know that they will get the advantage of the top market

ARDMORE MILL AND ELEVATOR COMPANY.

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THE pride of Ardmore, and in fact of the whole surrounding country, is the new mill and elevator just completed at a cost of many thousands of dollars. L. H. Griffin and J. M. Floyd, the general managers of this new enterprise, kindly showed an Ardmoreite representative through the entire plant, which is certainly complete in all departments, and capable of turning out as fine a grade of flour as any in the South.

The capacity of the mill is 225 bbls. flour and 100 bbls. meal. The mill house, including engine room, is 30x60 feet, and three stories in height, with a basement. This basement, or cellar, is used for storing corn. The line shafting, also, is located here.

On the first floor are the flour rolls and grinding department.

The second story is occupied by the wheat cleaners and purifiers, bran dusters, corn, flour and bran bins.

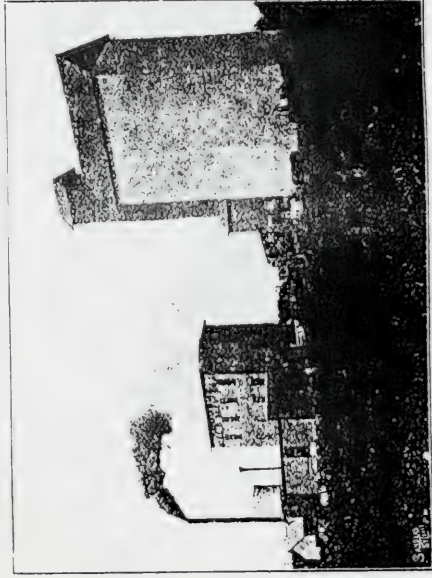
On the third floor are two big plan-sifters, wheat scourers and dust collectors.

The machinery used throughout is new, and has all the latest improvements. Every mechanical device for saving labor and increasing the excellence of the output has been secured, and to the uninitiated it seems almost miraculous that wood and steel can be so fashioned as to perform the many things demanded of them

in the different departments of this modern, up-to-date mill. From the time the grain is automatically dumped from the wagons into the big bins under the elevator until it comes out of the spouts in the form of flour, smooth as velvet and pure as the driven snow, it is not once handled by man, but is taken up by first one set of machinery and then another until it finally falls into sacks a finished product, and a monument to man's skill and ingenuity. The different processes of elevating, cleaning, dusting, sorting and crushing into finer particles, requires an enormous amount of work by a score of different mechanical appliances, many of them almost human in action.

The storage capacity of the elevator, which is 87 feet high, and 30x65 feet in size, is exceptionally large, holding 50,000 bushels, and containing twelve bins, each about 45 feet in depth. The head miller, his assistants, and the managers are all experienced mill men, and thoroughly acquainted with the latest methods in use for the manufacture of high grade flour. This is evidenced from results obtained during the first day's run this summer, the flour being as fine, if not finer, than any ever placed

for sale in the local market. This is the opinion of scores of the best citizens of Ardmore, who anxiously tested the first batches of biscuits, bread and cake ever made from the product of the new mill. Given a good quality of wheat and corn, and Ardmore's mill can compete with any other for the flour and meal, too. An enterprise of this kind is a great thing for Ardmore, and should receive the patronage and moral support of every one of her citizens and the farmers living hereabouts as well.



SAINT AGNES' ACADEMY

ARMORE, IND. TER.

ST. AGNES' ACADEMY, a boarding school for young ladies, successfully closed the first year of its history with the Commencement Exercises of June 6, 1899. The work of the Sisters of Mercy is recognized the world over as thorough in the extreme, and such an indelible imprint is left on the character of the pupil who successfully passes through the curriculum of studies, adopted by them, that it is apparent to all that she is a convent-bred girl. The training the child receives she carries with her through life, and it matters little the position she holds, as she is a thorough lady, both in manner and education. It is among the rarest of things that a pupil graduates from the Sisters of Mercy, that the Sisters are ever ashamed of. The moulding of the moral nature of the child is the object kept steadily in view, and when the child leaves the self-sacrificing care of the Sisters, she is able to shine in the world with credit to herself and her "Alma Mater."

STUDIES It is not the object of the Academy to train specialists, but to develop all the mental and moral faculties of the pupils by means of a liberal education. The course of studies, including Shorthand and Typewriting, comprises every useful and ornamental branch suitable for young ladies. The young lady who successfully passes through the regular Academic course is prepared to follow any avocation she may afterward choose. The several classes are graded to contain each a certain definite amount of matter on which no other class of the same course will trespass.

Whilst St. Agnes' Academy is a Catholic school, difference of religion will not be regarded in the admission of pupils who are willing to conform to the general regulations. Their religious views will in no wise be interfered with.

Tuition, board, lodging, etc., \$42.00 a month.

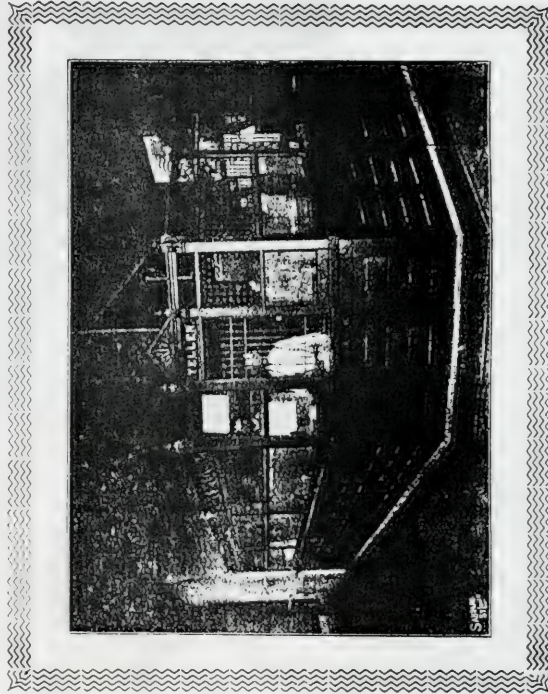
For further information apply at the Academy, or by letter to the Mother Superior.



THE CITY NATIONAL BANK,

— Ardmore, Ind. Ter. —

ON July 1, 1892, this Bank opened its doors for business with a stockholders alike. At this time the deposits average \$200,000, capital of \$50,000 and about \$19,000 deposits. The present with a surplus of \$30,000, and twice each year the Bank pays a 5 per cent dividend. Very little if any of the Bank stock is on the

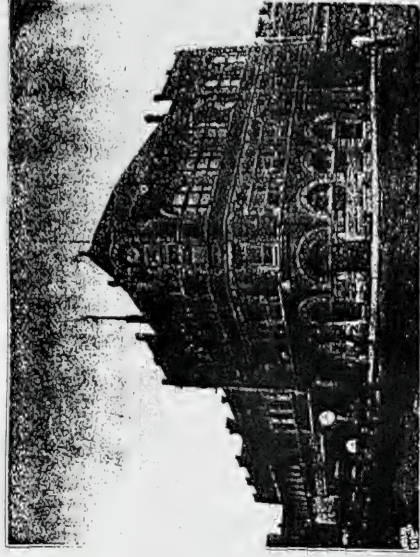


market, for obvious reasons. Good banking is the fundamental principle upon which this financial institution has been built, and with the growth of Ardmore and surrounding country, the City National Bank will likewise grow.

... THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK ...

ARDMORE, IND. TER.

THE First National Bank of this city is the oldest in the entire Indian Territory, being organized August 17, 1890. The officers are: L. P. Anderson, President; C. C. Hemming, Vice President; C. L. Anderson, Cashier and C. L. Hemming. The business transacted is extensive, and the books show



Assistant Cashier The Bank's capital is \$100,000, with a surplus of \$50,000. Since 1890 the deposits have increased from \$40,000 to over one quarter of a million in 1899.

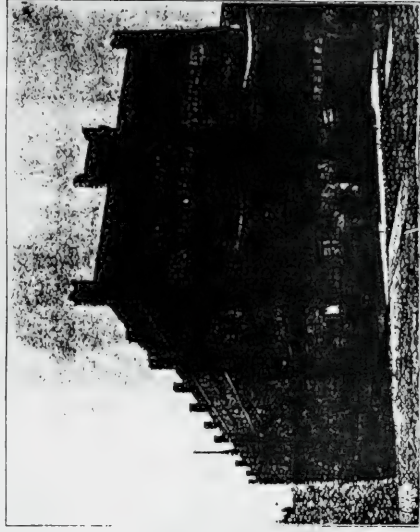
Each of the officers is widely known in banking circles, and together form a tower of financial strength. During the paucity

the names of customers living in every part of the Chickasaw Nation. Confidence that great factor in the permanent establishment of all repositories for the people's money, is evidenced by the splendid showing made by the First National Bank since its organization.

SIG SIMON & BRO.

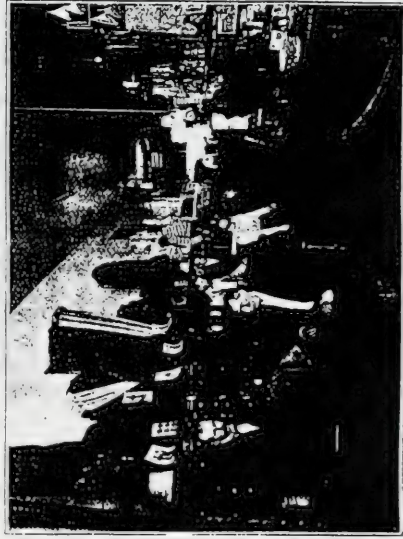
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SIX thousand two hundred feet of floor space, upon which is piled one of the largest, newest and most complete stocks of dry goods ever brought into the Indian Territory. Such is a general description of the dry goods establishment of Sig Simon & Bro., composed of Sig and Harry Simon, who have so successfully entered to a discriminating public here in Ardmore for three years past. The firm used to do business in the Whittington block, but something over one year ago Sig Simon decided that the time was ripe for the erection of a modern building, built with an eye to accommodating the endless variety of goods which his trade demanded. He built it, thereby adding another to the many handsome business blocks which have recently sprung up, as if by a magician's hand, along the main business thoroughfare of fair young Ardmore.



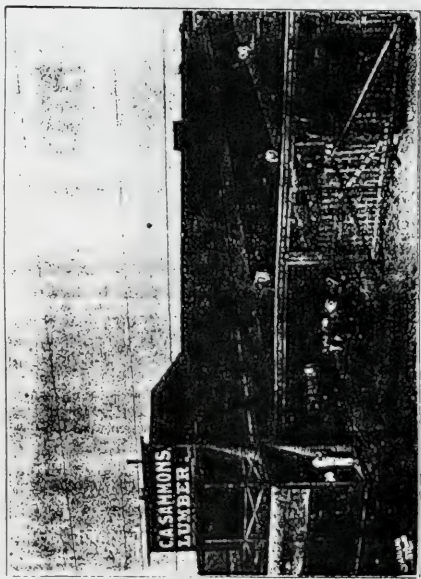
Mr. Simon is a business man. He knows the purchasing power of cash money, and he pays cash for all the goods that enter his store. Nor is this all. He is a discriminating buyer, a close, conservative buyer, and has men in the city of New York constantly on the lookout for bargains. Twice every year he goes to market and repletes his stock. This fall he is going to outdo himself, having made some exceptionally heavy purchases at manufacturers' cost.

The farmer wants to get a hundred cents' worth every time he spends a dollar, and he should. He works hard for his money, and deserves the best for the least price, Sig Simon knows this. The farmers and the citizens of Ardmore know that the fundamental principle of the business career of this firm is cash. Cash purchases and cash sales, and a uniform profit on all goods. Last year, Mr. Simon was an extensive cotton buyer, and this season he will again be in the market. It is said that he pays more than the regular buyers.

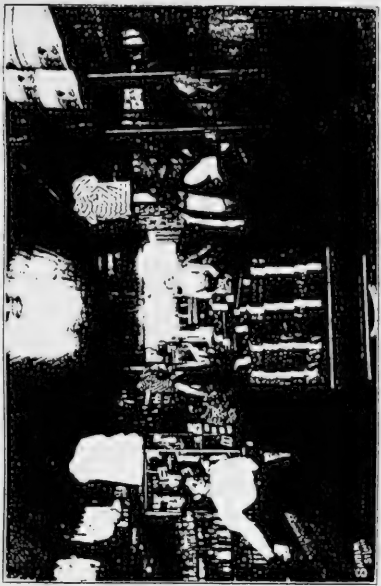


C. A. SAMMONS, LUMBER.

WHEN C. A. Sammons came to Ardmore eleven years ago, or about one year after the town sprung into existence, there were not more than half a dozen stores in the whole place, and they were most primitive in both structure and stock. Mr. Sammons identified himself with F. M. Richardson Lumber Co., and later became general manager and a member of the firm as well, remaining in that capacity until 1894, when he bought the entire business. Since that time he has had no partners, conduct-

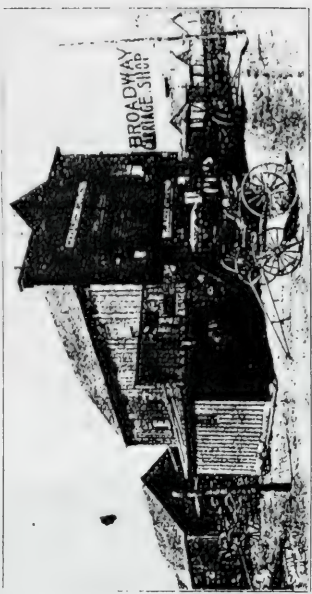


ing his extensive lumber trade alone. The picture shows only a portion of the entire yards, which cover fully an acre of ground, and on which have been erected numerous substantial sheds to protect the stock from the elements. Business has been steadily increasing, and Mr. Sammons has kept abreast of the times, being always prepared to fill all orders for every description of building material. He also carries a large stock of lime and cement.



INTERIOR OF R. LOWENSTEIN'S STORE.

Established in business since November 26, 1898. Dealer in Dry Goods, Clothing and Shoes. Makes a specialty of Millinery and Ladies' Furnishings, and is the leader in this department. Does a strictly cash business. Has a wide reputation for honest dealings with the public. Mr. Lowenstein's name ranks among the first in the city, and he is a most successful and fast-growing business. Their motto: ALWAYS STAY IN DEBT. They are a customer, always a customer.



The accompanying cut represents the Blacksmith and Carriage Repair Shop of D. E. Allen, who began business in Ardmore about five years ago. Mr. Allen is a thorough mechanic, and has worked up a very satisfactory trade in the neighborhood. His business is in the repair of carriages, and his prices on all work are most reasonable.

THE ARDMORE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

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A SKETCH BY MRS. A. C. CRUCE, PRESIDENT

"And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, when I come to make up my jewels."

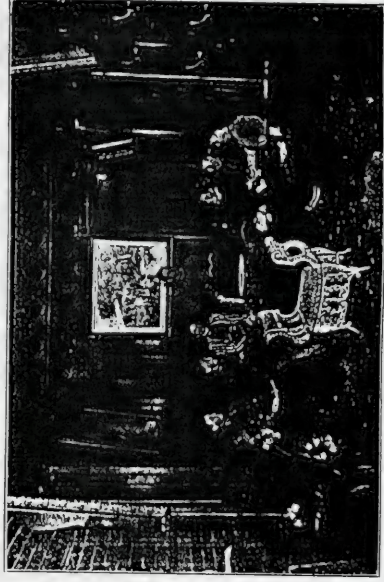
'TIS one o'clock of a pleasant August day. The sun shines bright and warm outside, and drives us to our cool retreats, the cosy nooks and crannies

of our comfortable homes. The bittersfly, with jeweled wings, glances in the warm sunlight and quivers with delight over the scented petals of the blushing rose. The mocking bird in the honeysuckle vine pours forth his full-throated melody and plumes his wings for a faraway flight across the fields of ripening corn. The wind floats in at the open casement, bearing on its perfumed breath, the sweet spirit of summer, still in the prime and vigor of life, scattering its glories and blessings around, prodigal of its heaped up treasure. We have just eaten for our

noonday meal, some of summer's choicest gifts—fruits and melons, and so on. And now, in the quiet of afternoon, we remember the big, kind editor has asked us to write up the Ardmore Benevolent Society for the "Good Times" edition of his most excellent paper, and instead of the customary afternoon nap, we seat ourselves with pen in hand (as the old saying goes) to comply with his request. Although 'tis midsummer, and we have plenty to eat and to spare, when no fire is needed to warm us, and but few clothes to clothe us (the lower

the better) we will not, like the idle grasshopper, sit and sing the summer away, for we know that just in the wake of summer zephyr comes the chilling breath of winter. The wind and sunshine of August have scattered a few dead leaves, sharp reminders of the coming autumn. The cricket and the katy-did sing with cracked voices, after a short-summer of frolic and song, and the yard where the grass grows green and velvety will be long be wrapped in a shroud of snow; and so, in the midst of sunshine and song, and gladness and plenty, the Benevolent Society works

on, finding plenty to do, in the hottest as well as the coldest weather, well knowing that when the summer is gone and winter is once more with us, the pitiful wail of the poor and needy will be heard again on our streets and at our doors. We do not expect to be rid of them, "for the poor we have with us always." Then let us work patiently, as we have in the past three years, thinking of self last, and considering no sacrifice too great to make for others. Let our motives be pure. Let us trust in God for the increase, and on our bended knee ask the giver of all good to help us, as we walk over the rough and uneven road. Only in this way can we give timely aid to the needy, and win the love of God that is promised to the cheerful giver. For three years we have toiled and watched and waited. We have visited the sick. We have fed the hungry. We have clothed the naked. We have comforted the living and buried the dead. We have cared for the old and infirm, and found homes for orphan children, and when Christmas of 1898 came, we were ready with clothes, fruit, candy, toys and food, and sent them out to nearly



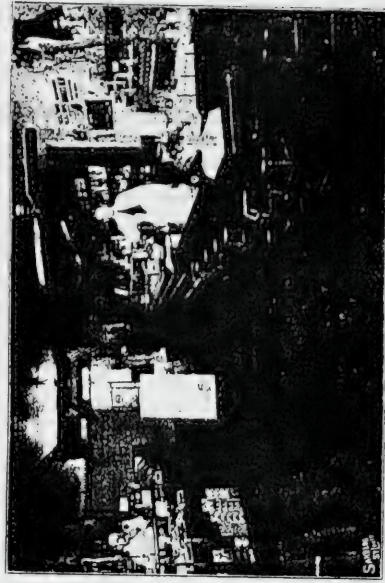
OFFICERS OF BENEVOLENT SOCIETY IN SESSION.

one hundred, old and young together, thus giving them a "wee bit" of happiness on this dear, festal day, which they otherwise might not have had. Sometimes we have met in the different churches, and sometimes in our own homes around our cheerful firesides, and at all times we have invited all who would to join us in this work so near our hearts. We are sorry that more have not come with us, but we keep up a brave heart, although we are but few, knowing that where even a few are gathered together in His name, there will God be with them. We have watched for chances to do good, and have not watched in vain. We have found the sick huddled together like sheep in dirty wagon yards, with none of the comforts of home around them. We have found the dying in dismal attics, where the cold wind poured in at every crack and corner. We have found hungry children dragged through the country and streets in filthy "prairie schooners," and thus their only home; and we have lent to them all a helping hand whenever we could. Sometimes our efforts have met with ingratitude, and our motives have been mistaken. We have been blamed when we were not at fault, but sometimes we have had blessings called down upon us, and we can well bear the curses of many if we have the honest blessings of a few, for "one with God is a majority." We have given of our own abundance, and when we have called on the people of Ardmore, they have responded with the open hand, and at all times and under all circumstances we have distributed donations according to our best judgment, after careful consideration, and we would kindly remind those who have found fault with us, that it is no easy task we have set ourselves to do. If they don't believe it they can try it and prove it for themselves. We have our personal duties, our homes and our children, and whenever we help others we do it at a sacrifice to ourselves, but we are willing to make the sacrifice, only it hurts to be misunderstood. The Ardmoreite did well to ask for a history of the Benevolent Society, for what better news of Ardmore can it scatter abroad than that she has a band of workers lending willing hearts and hands to supply the needs of the homeless and hungry, doing what they can to rid our streets of beggars and make the poor within our gates self-respecting and self-support-

ing. Now, perhaps, the editor will ask, is this the history of the Benevolent Society? We answer, the Benevolent Society has no history except such as is written in deeds of self-sacrifice and love. Our work is only just begun, and will not end till we lay our burdens down at the Master's feet, when "He comes to make up His jewels."

The accompanying picture shows the following ladies who are earnest workers of the Society: Mrs. A. C. Cruce, Mrs. J. W. Gollidge, Mrs. J. C. Thompson, Mrs. Amanda Robinson, Mrs. W. I. Cruce, Mrs. A. J. Wolverton and Mrs. V. A. Niblack.

.....



INTERIOR OF JULIUS KAHN'S ESTABLISHMENT

Every city contains some place made popular by the excellence of the goods dispensed. Julius Kahn's Confectioners and Ice Cream Parlors are popular here in Ardmore, because he serves his customers with the purest of cream, sherbet and ices, and also keeps in stock a full assortment of confections and other high class confections. Mr. Kahn caters to the best trade and sets it. A short order restaurant is run in connection, where everything in season is to be had, cooked to a turn and properly served. This is the third time he has returned to Ardmore, and if the old adage be true, he may be sure of it as success he deserves.

A SUCCESSFUL MAN.

....

COLONEL SIDNEY SUGGS was born in the good old state of Mississippi. At the mature age of fourteen he took his parents by the hand and gently led them into Eastern Texas, where for the next ten years his young brain and hands were kept busy wrenching from the bosom of mother earth the harvest

which always rewards those who scientifically till the soil.

As with most boys, the country school was the source of the Colonel's education, though I am afraid he learned many things not set down in his books nor considered quite necessary by his spiritual adviser.

Later he was employed by Thompkins Machinery & Implement Company, of Dallas, Texas, as traveling representative, and for fifteen years he traveled for this house, making friends wherever he went for himself and his employers, too. When the Company made an assignment, Mr. Suggs was appointed sole adjuster with instructions to get what he could from accounts aggregating about \$350,000, due the firm at the time it went into liquidation. The task was a hard one; and required five years of labor and worry, but the result was most satisfactory, the assignee realizing good money from many unexpected sources.

With his brother, Hugh, the Colonel is interested in several business enterprises. At Berwyn, I. T., they are successfully operating a gin, corn and flour mills, and a saw mill and lumber yard, while at Springer they own an interest in another gin, as well as being the proprietors of a small bunch of well bred cattle.



COL. SIDNEY SUGGS.

Like bold Cyrus Field, with his Atlantic cable, when the Colonel announced his intention of purchasing "The Ardmoreite" of this city, and entering the journalistic arena, the people laughed and said he wouldn't make it a success. This was in 1897, and on June 18 of that year he paid over the money which gave him the privilege of placing his name at the mast head of that paper. That he has made a success of his newspaper venture none will deny. The Ardmoreite is today the leading paper of the Indian Territory, and the mechanical department has been transformed from a primitive country newspaper office to an up-to-date, modern plant, with new presses, new type, and steam power, representing an outlay of \$7000, and all bought with money made out of the paper. The men identified with the different departments have the experience of years in the newspaper field, and are eminently qualified for the responsible positions they hold.

Colonel Suggs, or Sid, as his friends call him, has taken undue advantage of the rest of the people here. He has traveled early and late, far and near, over the whole country, getting acquainted with the people and making himself popular. There isn't a picnic or a gathering of any kind hereabouts, but what the Propelling Power of the Ardmoreite is on the ground, and ever ready to dispel gloomy forebodings, the toothache or any other human ill, with one of his side-splitting impromptu speeches. He became a member of the Old School Presbyterian church when twelve years of age, and has retained membership therein since.

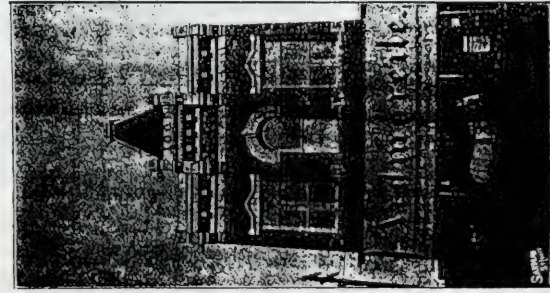
He is also a member of different secret societies, and has membership as follows: Ardmore Lodge No. 31, A. F. & A. M.; Ardmore Chapter No. 11, R. A. M.; Ardmore Commandery No. 5, Knights Templar; India Temple A. A. O. N. Mystic Shrine, Oklahoma City. O. T.; Ardmore Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F.; Indianola Encampment No. 10, I. O. O. F.; Ardmore Rebekah Lodge No. 20, I. O. O. F.; Woodmen of the World, and Ardmore Council No. 15, Order of American Plowmen. Yes, they all know him, from the little urchin in abbreviated trousers to the centenarian, with an eye to the future, and I, as his (unknown to him) biographer, am here to say that his success in life is due as much to his genial, whole-soul nature as to his unquestioned business sense.

The Ardmoreite

Published Daily, Sunday and
Weekly at Ardmore, Ind. Ter.



The Leading Paper in the Indian
Territory.



All Kinds Job Work
Neatly and Promptly
Executed.



Weekly, \$1 a Year;
Daily, \$5 a Year.



All the News, All the
Time. Best Adver-
tising Medium.



SIDNEY SUGGS, : : **Proprietor.**

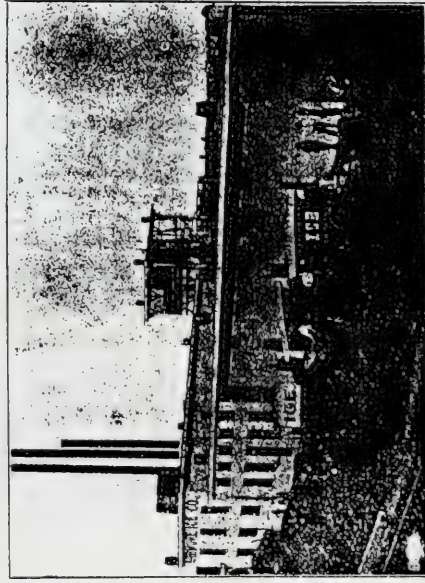


COMPOSING ROOM

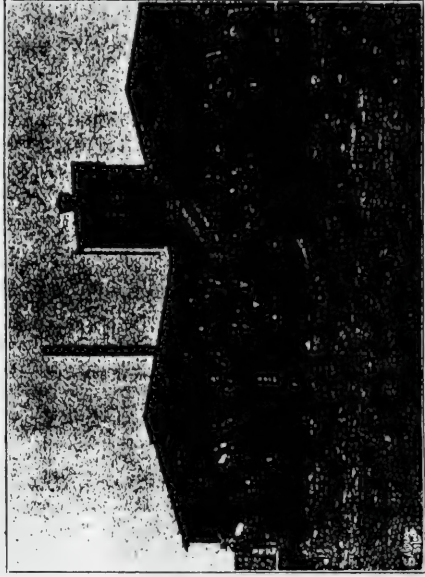


PRESS ROOM

ARDMORE ICE COMPANY.



CHICKASAW COMPRESS COMPANY.



ICE, pure, crystal ice. Who is there living in this sun-kissed Southland that does not agree with us that it is the luxury of luxuries, the one thing most essential to thorough comfort and happiness during the long, hot summer days?

The Ardmore Ice Company is operating an ice-ton compression plant, much larger than is needed at this time, but, like many others, this Company is looking ahead, have faith in the future, and know that before many years the full capacity of this model factory will be needed to meet the constantly increasing demand. At present the trade covers all the local territory, and extends up and down the Santa Fe railroad between Red River and Purcell, supplying all of the small towns on this line, as well as many villages in the interior. In Ardmore three wagons are kept busy all summer, distributing frozen joy. H. E. Foster, the business-like young manager, understands his business, and on account of his excellent qualities, has endeared himself to all

COTTON is still king in the South, and scattered over the broad Southland are compresses to which the staple is hauled for a final reduction in bulk before it is ready for the spinners of

the United States and Europe. Most of the output of the cotton gins of the Chickasaw Nation finds its way to Ardmore, where the big Chickasaw Compress is located, a small portion of which may be seen in the accompanying photograph. The capacity of the plant is from 1000 to 1200 bales in ten hours, and the number of bales handled is about 50,000 per annum, requiring a force of sixty-five men, who receive for their services from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per day. During the season the Compress presents a scene of life and activity. At this time the plant covers about six acres of ground, having been enlarged from time to time.

W. H. Murphy, the superintendent, is eminently qualified for the important position he holds, having formerly been identified with several compresses in Texas.

THE OLDEST DRY GOODS HOUSE.

.....

MR. W. O. DUSTON, one of Ardmore's leading merchants, has been through all of the ups and downs experienced by the young city. His was the first business house established in the town. Twice he has seen all his goods go up in smoke, but with true Anglo-Saxon grit he has stuck to his promise to give to this section a store, the equal in appearance and stock, of any in the Indian Territory. In order to accomplish this he recently erected the spacious brick building which he now occupies, finding that his former place of business, the building now occupied by J. H. Lockwood & Bro., was too small for his purpose. In this splendidly lighted store will be displayed this fall one of the largest stocks of dry goods, clothing, etc., ever consigned to a Territory merchant. Mr. Duston spent several weeks recently in the Eastern markets, not for the purpose of simply replenishing his stock, but to multiply it several times over. While it is true that the mammoth department stores of St. Louis, Chicago and New York are enabled to buy goods cheaper than our merchants here, on account of the large size of their orders; on his last trip, however, Mr. Duston accompanied several buyers representing these colossal establishments, and bought goods side by side with them, getting the advantage of the discounts they were receiving. Now, good people, do you know what this means? It means that for the first time in the history

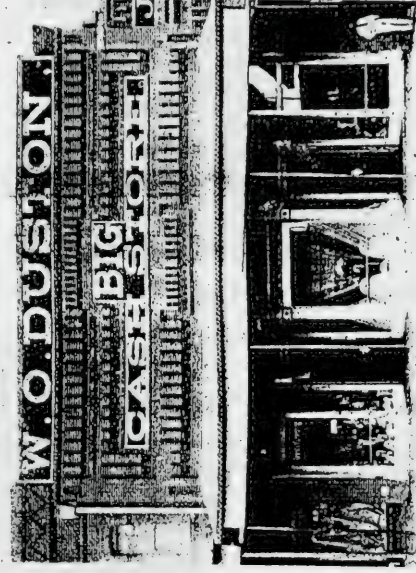
of mercantile Ardmore, the dry goods house of W. O. Duston can sell the same goods at the same profit for the same price that Crawford or Barr of St. Louis, or any other ~~big~~ ^{large} eastern house does, and that is just what he proposes to do when these goods arrive this month.

Such a jubilee, such a carnival, such a crowd of intelligent shoppers as will daily congregate at "Duston's" will be a revelation to some and a decided source of satisfaction to the proprietor and his score of clerks.

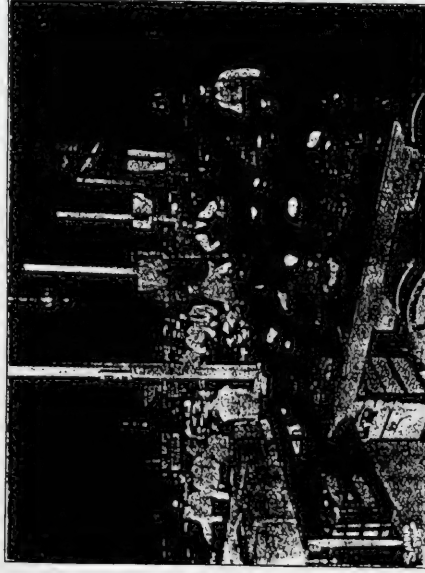
Mr. Duston has catered to the people so long, and he is naturally such a close observer, that all may be sure of finding "just the thing" sought. Twenty-seven years' residence within a few miles of Ardmore is a long time, when one takes into consideration the newness of the country; but this is the length of time, however, that has elapsed since this progressive merchant came here from his native state, Tennessee.

Every fall it is his custom to buy cotton raised within the trading circle of Ardmore; of course, his principal reason for doing this is to get some of the trade from the producer, and we

have been reliably informed that the price realized by the farmer for this staple at W. O. Duston's is sufficiently in advance of the market to justify their selling their whole crop to him, especially when they know that any extra price paid per bale is not equalized by adding to the sale price of any of the goods carried in stock at his store which they may feel disposed to buy in return. Customers favoring this house with their patronage are assured of fair and courteous treatment in every instance.



WESTHEIMER & DAUBE.



THIS firm has been doing business in Ardmore for the past five years. The building occupied is the same used at the start, and is owned by the firm. The stock of dry goods, clothing, etc., carried is an exceptionally large one, and requires a good sized and well appointed store for its proper display, and this fall, although there are 4000 feet of floor space, besides a warehouse, it will tax every foot of it to accommodate the immense stock of goods just purchased. Both partners are recognized as thorough business men, and their long experience in mercantile life has been useful in acquainting them with the different kinds and classes of goods most in demand. Many of their customers have done all of their trading with them ever since they started in business, perhaps realizing that it is better to stay and do business with people whom they know, and who know them, than to run the risk of dealing with unreliable people. Too much can not be said of a firm that extends to all customers alike every advantage possible in the way of the best values.



W. O. DUSTON'S
RESIDENCE.

GEO. HOFFMAN & BRO.



IT IS seldom we find in a small city, no larger than Ardmore is at this time, two or more first-class meat markets and that such is the case here is cause for congratulation. George Hoffman & Bro. operate one of them. The firm is composed of George and Ed. who started in business here in September, 1898. The mere fact that they sell meat, etc., does not signify so much, but when it becomes known that nothing but beef, pork, mutton, etc., in the best of condition are handled by this market, it means a great deal. First, their customers are supplied with meats which are health giving instead of health taking, then again, fat young stock is always tender and juicy, and that is the kind you will be sure to get, if money will secure it, when you trade with them. Every necessary appliance for handling their constantly increasing trade is to be found. These gentlemen are of the progressive stamp, and have great faith in the future of Ardmore.

ARCHITECTURAL ARDMORE.

.....

MR. C. E. TROUTMAN, the architect, has done much to make our city pleasing to the eye, for, after designs drawn by him, nearly, if not all, of the finest residences and business blocks were built.

Mr. Troutman is a native of Logansport, La. He moved to Ardmore in 1892, and engaged in contracting and building until 1897, when he almost at once bound became the leading architect of the Indian Territory. Among the modern residences recently built) some of which are reproduced in this pamphlet) he designed and superintended the construction of those owned by the following gentlemen: C. L. Anderson, A. C. Cruce, W. O. Duston, J. N. Barall, Max Westheimer, Joe F. Robinson, besides some still in course of construction, as well as scores of others. He is also the architect of, among others, the building belonging to Sig Simon, Johnson Cruce & Cruce, Campbell & Foster, M. Gorman, (the Gorman Block), United States court house, owned by Doak & Robinson. Mr. Troutman does considerable of the best work in neighboring towns. He designed the Fraternity building at Wynnewood, and the two-story brick bank building at Durant, both being built at this time.



MR. C. E. TROUTMAN

UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE AND JAIL

ARDMORE, IND. TER.

.....

THE cuts illustrating this description of the United States Court house and jail were made from photographs taken in August, 1899, or not quite one year after the buildings were completed. Messrs. A. V. Doak and Joe F. Robinson spent \$20,000, that Uncle Sam's officials and his prisoners might have all the



UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE AND JAIL.

comforts which they felt they were entitled to, and they have leased the whole property to the federal government for a term of years. Doak & Robinson also have the contract for feeding the prisoners, numbering at this time about 100, and they feed them well.

The court house is two stories high, built of brick and stone, while the jail enclosure consists of a high stone wall, with guard



FEMALE WARD.

houses on two corners, and a runway above for the sentries, who, as will be observed in the jail scene, are easily-masters of the situation. Inside of the jail enclosure is the prison house, where the men sleep, etc. At the rear of the jail proper is another enclosure, consisting of jail office, men's hospital, female prisoners' quarters, cook and store rooms, while opposite are the government and private store rooms and trustees' quarters. Still farther in the rear is located a general utility yard, used for storing fuel, fumigating rooms, etc. The water used comes from one of the finest wells of the city, located on the property.

The first floor of the court house, which is 50x100 feet in size, is occupied as follows: United States commissioner's court and jury room. United States attorney's office, grand jury room, two petit jury rooms, United States marshal's main and private offices, and a 24-inch wall vault, 10x18 feet, built for the safe keeping of all government papers, etc.

On the upper floor is located the United States court and witness room. United States clerk's main and private offices and

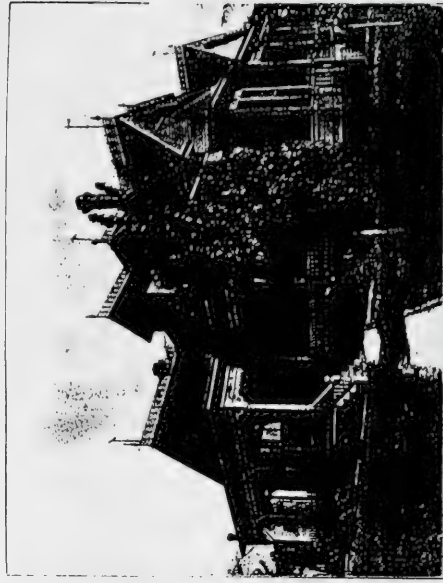


JAIL SCENE.

vault, the judge's private chamber and stairway
The jail wall occupies 40x100 feet of ground, and the prison
house inside, 20x60 feet. Mike Gorman is the efficient jailor, and
he has selected excellent assistants to guard and properly care for
his prisoners

The following constitute the habitudes of these domains, and
they are men qualified in all respects for the responsible official
positions they hold:

Hosea Townsend, United States District Judge; C. O. Bunn,
Court Stenographer; W. B. Johnson, United States District
Attorney; James E. Humphries, Assistant United States District
Attorney; Geo. W. Gates, Clerk United States District Attorney;
S. B. Bradford, United States Commissioner; A. V. Deak, Gov-
ernment Contractor; John S. Hammer, United States Marshal;
R. Herz, Chief Deputy United States Marshal; N. H. McCoy,
Deputy Clerk; C. M. Campbell, United States Clerk



COL. A. V. DEAK'S RESIDENCE

DAVIS BROS.,



UP-TO-DATE....

**Ladies' and Gents'
Furnishers . . .
and Merchant Tailors.**

Carry Latest styles of

Shirts, Collars, Cuffs, Ties, Notions.

Also, a full line of

**Hosiery, Underwear, Handkerchiefs,
Gloves and Suspenders,**

Work Shirts, Overalls and Jumpers. Also.

Fine Line of Dress Patterns

For ladies. We are prepared to make a specialty of Ladies' and Gents' Tailor Made Suits. Latest styles of

Shirt Waists, Wrappers, Etc.

In Fall and Winter Goods. Come and see us. Our motto shall be "Good goods, low prices, and satisfaction guaranteed"

R. L. DAVIS
A. L. DAVIS

The Half-Tone Engravings

IN THIS BOOKLET WERE MADE BY

SANDERS ENGRAVING CO.,

OF ST. LOUIS, WHOSE REPUTATION FOR HIGH CLASS
WORK IS RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT
THE UNITED STATES.



DR. A. F. MANHART, DENTIST.

Ardmore has reason to feel proud of her professional men, especially so of Dr. A. F. Manhart, who has so successfully practiced dentistry here for two years past. Having been in the city for so long, he has become well known to the people, and his success is not to be wondered at. The Doctor's patients comprise most of the city's best people. As soon as the Gorman block is completed, he will move his dental parlors to the corner room in this building, and will equip his operating room with every appliance for the comfort and convenience of his many discriminating patients.

A BERWYN BUSINESS MAN.

.....

HUGH SUGGS was born in Mississippi, but came to Texas with his parents at the age of sixteen, and, with his brother, Sidney, assisted Suggs the elder to till the soil on the home farm. For so many years he was identified with the milling, mercantile, and lumber business, finally locating at Berwyn in 1893 where he was joined two years later by Sidney. Thirty years ago the two brothers formed a copartnership which is as singular in its nature as it has proven satisfactory to the ones most interested.

Neither partner has ever deemed it necessary to ask for an accounting. Each is interested in every venture undertaken by the other, each turns the profits arising from whatever source into a common fund for the equal benefit of both. A kind of Damon and Pythias proceeding, which, in these degenerate days, is most refreshing to tell about.

Mr. Hugh Suggs, with his family, still lives in Berwyn, eight miles north of Ardmore, where he is operating, under the firm name of Suggs & Bro., a sawmill and lumber yard, a gin and a corn and flour mill. He also owns, jointly with his brother, an interest in a fine gin at Springer, and a herd of graded cattle. To quote one of his friends, "Hugh is a good man to tie to." His career as an earnest, kind-hearted, thorough business man is an open book to all who know him.



MR. HUGH SUGGS.



WEST VIEW OF D. T. NISBETT'S RESIDENCE.

N. R. TISDAL

J. M. TISDAL

TISDAL & TISDAL, Fire and Tornado Insurance

ALL LOSSES PROMPTLY ADJUSTED.

Real Estate and Rental Agents.

If you contemplate moving to the Indian Territory, it will pay you to correspond with us. Investments for non-residents a specialty.

Office upstairs in Randol Building, ARDMORE, I. T.

J. H. LOCKWOOD & BRO.,

WHOLESALE GROCERS.

.....

DISTRIBUTORS of pure foods, caterers to the trade, and incidentally, to the people, call it what you will, the wholesale grocery house of J. H. Lockwood & Bro., of Ardmore, is the right firm in the right place. When the brothers, J. H. and H. A. Lockwood, composing the firm, branched out in the wholesale field, they were well qualified for the business, having had the experience which is only secured in the retail trade. The likes and dislikes of the people had been made a study, so, when in time they came to supply the trade instead of people directly, goods were bought with that end in view. The best brands and grades of everything to conform with the public purse was stacked high all over the brick building they occupy on Main street.

W. E. Sanders is the popular city salesman.

Some people will hold that there isn't much to be said about wholesale grocery houses, that they all handle the same goods and do business in the same way, etc. To some of these assertions we would respectfully object, especially to the statement that "they all do business the same way." Did you ever buy goods from a man and feel all the time that you were the object of some kind of suspicion, like you had been stealing sheep, or were about to slip an apple into your pocket? Perhaps not, but the writer has, and it isn't pleasant, to say the least. Isn't it much nicer to do your buying from people who make you feel that you are just about right, whether you are or not; from a house that is in every way reliable, and where on most goods purchased, you make money by saving it? If so, when you have sold out what you have in your store, we would prescribe for you a trial order from J. H. Lockwood & Bro. It might prove a revelation, open your eyes, and cause your name to be added to the constantly increasing list of customers, who, in some instances, are sending in orders from a distance of at least half a hundred miles.



DENTAL PARLOR OF DR. A. E. ADAMS.

Eight years of successful practice in dentistry in the town of the record of Mr. A. E. Adams, who pulled his first Ardmore tooth in the winter of '21, and a close inspection of the above pictured dental parlor, will tell you that the picture man got in his work. Dr. Adams, the latest publisher of the Ardmoreite at the time the picture was taken, is being naturally a student and a believer in progression, he avails himself of the latest appliances in the treatment of teeth. Crown, bridge and other work requiring essential accuracy is entrusted to the Doctor, who also believes in and uses anaesthetics for patient's extractions.

.....

THE time is not far off when Ardmore will have several railroads connecting her with the outside world, instead of but one.

.....

FINE soil and climate, plenty of pure water and vast deposits of coal, asphaltum, lead, zinc, copper and silver, are a few inducements held out to the prospective locator here.

.....

WHY is it that thousands of people will struggle on in the big cities, with absolutely no hope of getting rich, when hundreds of opportunities to secure fortunes await men of brains who have a little capital here?

WEEKS BROS., HARDWARE.

.....

IN A little frame structure on Court street, Weeks Brothers began their business career in Ardmore five years ago last May. That was in 1895. Since that time the city has grown, but not as rapidly as has the business of this firm, which is composed of S. A. and B. H. Weeks. The family left their native state Indiana in 1872, for Kansas, where they remained until 1890, when they decided to come South, selecting Texas, as holding out many inducements to the newcomer, and finally the two brothers named came to the Indian Territory and embarked in the hardware business here as before stated. In the old country, before a man can set up in business for himself, he is obliged to serve a certain number of years as an apprentice in some well established shop, and directly under the vigilant eye of a master of the trade he may elect to follow for a livelihood, but here in America anybody can recommend himself as being master of any business or trade, with nothing back of it save an abundance of self assurance. For these reasons, the man who is a sure-enough skilled mechanic is in demand. Weeks Bros. are past masters in the art of plumbing and tin work. Seventeen long years of practical experience under the careful supervision of their father, have made them eminently qualified to undertake any kind of work which will ever be demanded of men in their line in Greater Ardmore.

However, it was our intention to say something about what these pushing young business men have been doing since they swung their sign to the breeze for the first time on Indian soil.

Very few start with nothing, and in five short years succeeded in securing one of the best businesses in a city, but Weeks Bros. have done it. They now carry a most complete stock of everything in the hardware line in a building which, provided the firm keeps on increasing its trade, will soon be found too small for the purpose. The plumbing and tin work in many of the finest buildings in Ardmore were done by this firm. In their store, a casual inspection will disclose hardware for all of man's many needs in the greatest profusion. Shelf and builders' hardware, stoves, pumps, windmills, gas pipe, pipe fittings, brass goods, and a thousand and one things that cannot be classified under any particular head. In fact, a stock as complete as any to be found in these parts. The brothers are wide-awake, progressive men in the fullest sense of the word; they knew what they were about when they located here, and like most other thinking people, have unbounded faith in the future greatness of the city of Ardmore.

A man or firm can and should be just as particular in handling hardware, and in giving his best work and material when doing either plumbing or tin work, as in any other line, but how few reliable firms there are in this respect is evidenced on every hand. Poor material and shoddy work are as thick as flies in summer, and in nearly every city. That there are some poor jobs and occasionally inferior material to be found in the construction of a few



of Ardmore's buildings is probably true but whoever is to blame, it is not Weeks Bros. Their reputation has been made by doing good, honest work in return for good, honest money. In fact, rather than not give perfect satisfaction they have been known to go into their pockets and do much more than they could have been justly asked to do.



STEVENS, KENNERLY & SPRAGINS CO.

....

PERHAPS the best known hardware firm in North Texas and the Indian Territory, is the Stevens, Kennerly & Spragins Company, of Gainesville, Texas, and Ardmore. J. T. J. B. Spragins has been at the head of the Ardmore store since its start



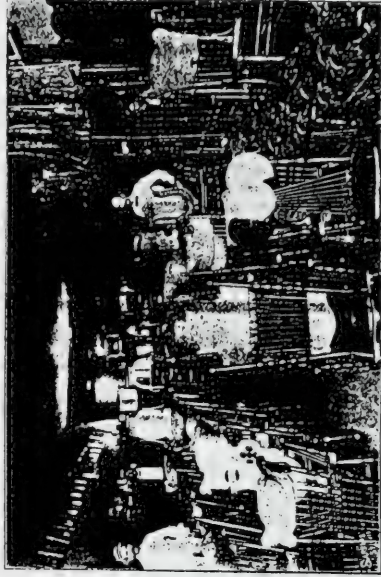
J. B. SPRAGINS' RESIDENCE.

in 1889, and is one of this city's solid business men. In speaking of the time when he used to transact his hardware business in a

little frame building 25x30 feet in dimensions, the impression left upon the listener is, that, with all the discomforts and inconveniences unavoidably encountered by the pioneer merchants, there were many things which are held in fond remembrance.

In 1893 a second store was built, which was subsequently burnt and at once replaced by the present building, which occupies a space of 35x190 feet in the heart of the business section. The stock carried is the largest in the Indian Territory, and comprises in part the following: Shelf and builders' hardware, farm implements, machinery, wagons, buggies, harness, saddles, gun machinery supplies, sewing machines, sporting goods, etc. The latter goods find a good customer in Mr. Spragins, who is one of the finest wing shots in the Territory.

.....



INTERIOR OF A. C. YOUNG'S FURNITURE STORE.

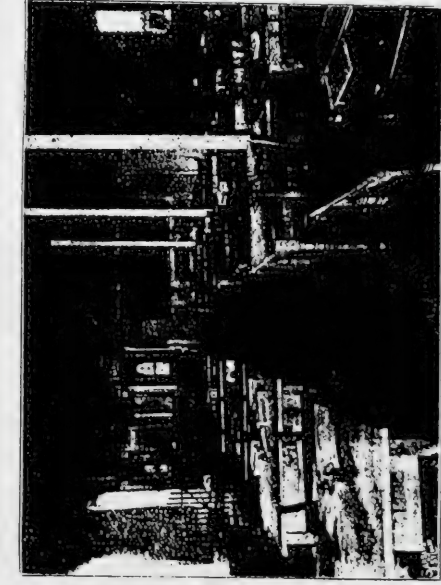
Nearly three years of earnest application, studying to please the people of Ardmore and vicinity, has resulted in the success of Mr. Young's furniture store here. He has succeeded. His carpet department will prove a revelation to those who are contemplating such a purchase. There in furniture can be always found anything suitable for either a mansion or a humble cottage. Mr. Young's establishment, which is on the corner of Second and Court streets, is 28x60 feet in size, besides a gallery, and the entire overhead floor.

1893

1899

...Indianola Business College and Literary Institute...

THE PIONEER COLLEGE OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY.



combined to produce a clear health record in the past history of the school. Eighteen hundred and ninety-nine marks the sixth consecutive year that this thoroughly equipped institution has been open to the boys and girls of the Indian Territory and western States. As an evidence of its popularity and well established business principles, the number of pupils matriculating have increased with each succeeding year. It is the only school in the Indian Territory where the pupils receive a systematic business training from practical bookkeepers and experienced teachers, thoroughly qualified. As an evidence of this, the Indianola Business College has more boys and girls holding paying positions as bookkeepers, stenographers and other positions of trust than all other schools in the Territory combined. The President, J. M. Rudisill, and the teachers in the Literary, Commercial, Stenographic, Music and Elocution departments, are wide-awake, up-to-date, and especially prepared for their respective work. Their constant aim being to impart knowledge that will be of the most practical value to the youth intrusted to their charge. In this connection it may be noted that few institutions can boast of such pre-eminent fitness in filling the peculiar educational needs of the territory from which it draws its support, and which it is destined to influence in the future as it has done in the past. Students can enter at any time and find classes to suit their condition.

The charges, treatment and instruction are the same to all; satisfaction being guaranteed to every student who is obedient and diligent.

THE accompanying cut represents one of the class rooms in the main building of this institution, which is located one mile northeast of the depot, on a beautiful elevation having a campus of ten acres, covered with native oaks and commodious buildings. Good water, nice shade, and a cool breeze throughout the summer months, make this a most delightful place, and have

Insurance, All Kinds

D. REDFIELD & SON,

— Oldest Agency in Ardmore.



INTERIOR OF REDFIELD'S OFFICE.

With twenty years' experience in Underwriting. Losses paid of \$270,000. without litigation.

Representing a line of Companies that have stood the test of time. Solicit the patronage of the insuring public.

Careful attention given to Notary work, sale of property and collecting rents.

Office in Pennington & Strong block, over Barber Shop.

Also Abstracts and Brokerage.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

....

DAVID REDFIELD is a native Missourian. Reared on a farm and at the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in the Union army and served actively to the close. On returning home

he again went to farming; was chosen one of the county judges, though only a little past his majority. In 1881 he moved to Cisco, Texas, and engaged in the insurance business, and was widely known in Western Texas, an active and successful agent. For variety he mixed politics along with business. He was appointed in 1883 postmaster at Cisco, but on the accession of Cleveland to the presidential chair he was removed as an "offensive partisan." He ran for Congress against Lanham in 1886, was a Harrison elector in 1888, and was appointed supervisor of the Sixth Texas Census District.

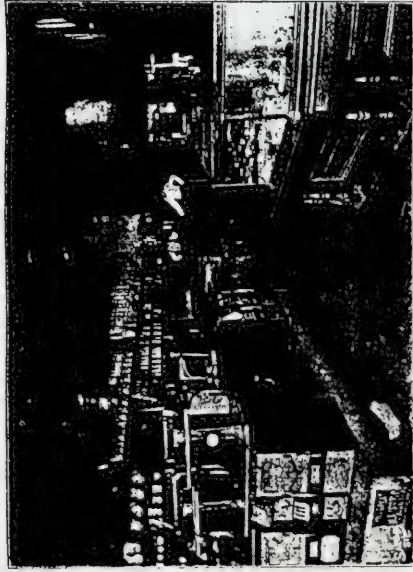
In 1893 he made Ardmore his home, and engaged in the insurance business. In 1898 he was made Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department Indian Territory.

The junior member of the firm, Orrin M. Redfield, was an active and energetic helper of his father when at home. He graduated with high honors at a business college, but at Cisco life was too tame for him, and leaving home with seventeen dollars, went around the world twice in six years, putting in time on the ocean and in Europe, Asia, New Zealand and other places, finally landing on American soil, and taking a partnership with his father in the insurance business at Ardmore.



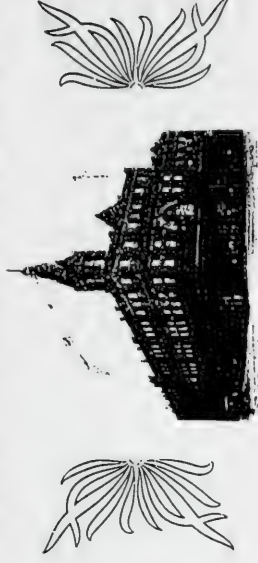
DAVID REDFIELD.

BIVENS & WILLIAMS.



IN May, 1888, there were four stores in Ardmore, and one of these was owned by J. A. Bivens, and he, with the early settlers, could fill a book replete with interesting reminiscences, of those wild and woolly times. By and by, as the little settlement grew into a town, stores became more numerous, and the merchants increased their stocks to meet the growing demand. In 1891 T. B. Williams became a partner, and the firm has since then gradually enlarged its business, until, at the present their trade extends a day's journey by wagon in every direction. The original place of business was on the site now occupied by Madden, Sykes & Co. Next the firm built a two-story brick in 1892 at the corner now occupied by their present brick building, which was built in 1895, after the first was destroyed by fire. The space utilized is as follows: Main store, 33x190 feet; large store room across alley in rear, and 100 feet deck above main store. The stock includes everything in the hardware line, implements, etc

THE WHITTINGTON.



Finest hotel in the Indian Territory. Located on Main street, one block from the depot, and offers the best accommodation between Kansas City and Fort Worth. Has seventy-two furnished rooms and well equipped with sample rooms for drummers.

W. F. WHITTINGTON, Proprietor, Ardmore, I. T.

Go to LEO BERRY,

...the Photographer

FOR FINE PHOTOGRAPHIC ART WORK

ENLARGING

In Crayon, Pastel, Water Colors and Sepia. All Work Guaranteed. Kodak Finishing Done. Also, Kodaks and Supplies for Sale.

CHILDREN'S PICTURES and HIGH GRADE WORK A SPECIALTY.

ARDMORE'S COLD STORAGE PLANT.

.....

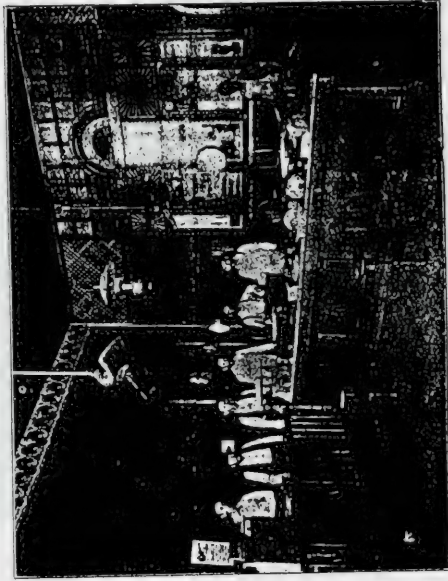
H EATH & JAMES, a firm composed of E. C. Heath and Arthur James, started an enterprise last May in this city, which, in point of public convenience and thorough equipment, is entitled to a hearty "thank you" from every one who lives within trading distance of Ardmore. We refer to the cold storage plant and market owned by these gentlemen. To those who have never tickled their palates with refrigerated meats, our advice is to do so at once, and you will never regret it. In most cities where frozen meat is obtainable, it sells for more than ordinary, on account of its improved flavor and increased tenderness. Here in Ardmore, however, there is no additional cost to the consumer.

In a general way the following is a description of the plant: The building used is of stone, with a frontage of 24 feet on Main street, and extending back 80 feet. The front is used for market purposes, and the interior finishes are decidedly elaborate in design, and the scheme of convenience in detail; back of the waiting room, which is supplied with seats for customers, rises to the ceiling the front of the beautifully designed refrigerating vault, the ice encrusted pipes being plainly seen through the glass front. A marble counter runs nearly across the full width of the building, and to the left, as one enters, is the business office, supplied with all the accessories so necessary to the business man. Directly back of the market is located what is called the retail vault, or depart-

ment, where meats, etc., for immediate consumption are kept. The next department is where the beef is stored. The genial proprietors kindly showed the writer through this, as well as the pork vault, and what was seen, and felt also, will long be remembered. Suspended from above were great sides of beef, huddled close together and feeling to the touch like ice itself. It was the same in the pork room, and even to a casual observer it was evident that the animals must have been in the pink of condition when they were butchered. Great rolls

of fat incased the juicy, tender meat, and formed a sight calculated to make even a dyspeptic clap his hands in unholy glee. The temperature maintained night and day, summer or winter, in the refrigerating rooms is from 32 degrees (freezing point) to 34 degrees. The plant is what is known as the dry cold, ammonia system, fifteen horse power, and cost complete, \$7000. The capacity is fifty beeves, and of pork about 2000 pounds daily, though mutton, fish, game, lard, sausage, butter, cheese, eggs, etc., are kept on hand.

Both Mr. Heath and Mr. James are native Missourians, though a great part of their lives have been spent in Texas and the Indian Territory, where they have been and are still engaged in raising graded stock. Mr. Heath has a ranch thirty miles west of this city, and his partner owns another forty miles east of Ardmore. They have recently purchased some fine Hereford and Durham bulls, and have in all about 5000 head of graded cattle. Much of their time is spent in looking after their stock interests, but, first in mind is their Ardmore cold storage plant, in which they feel a just sense of pride.



J. W. BANKS,

= Dealer in General Merchandise. =

I HAVE just time enough to say, this is a true photo of my place face and hope by plain plodding, straight methods to win my share of the trade. We buy cotton from the first day the market opens to the close. So, thanking you all for your liberal support



fully identified with my customers and trading public. I herewith plant my interest in Ardmore alongside of yours, and will always be found contending for the right thing between man and man.

I spurn from me a success that comes not by the sweat of the

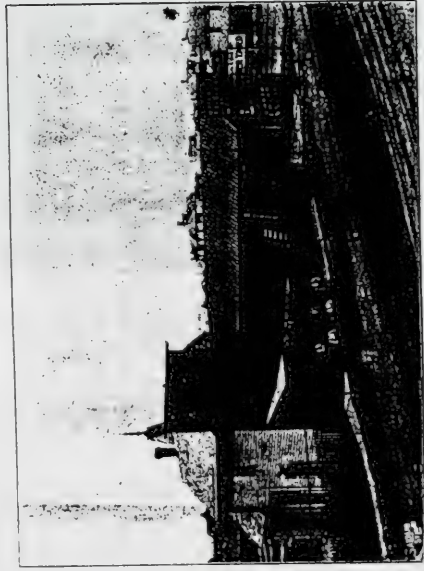
in the past, we hope to be able to merit the same in the future. Let our place of business serve you as a home while in town.

Yours as ever,
J. W. BANKS.

CHICKASAW LUMBER COMPANY.

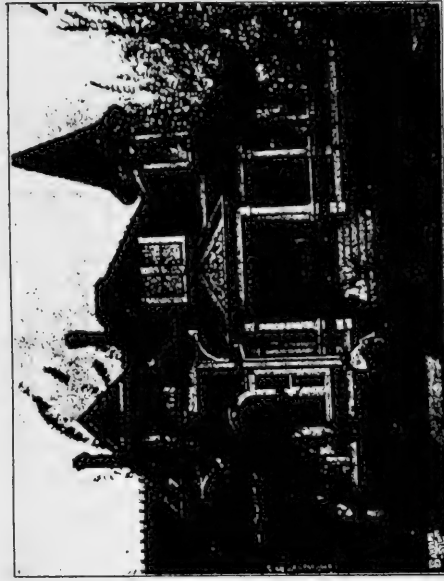
....

THE lumber business in a growing town like Ardmore is probably of more direct importance to the people than any other. Material for the construction of the hundreds of houses and large buildings which are every year completed makes the question of good lumber and reasonable prices a matter of keen interest.



A PORTION OF YARDS.

est. The Chickasaw Lumber Co. is deservedly popular, and the business done by the Company's manager here, Mr. W. C. Baker, is probably second to none in the Territory. It takes more of a hustle to get the trade in this line than in most others, and this statement will be appreciated by lumber dealers especially. It goes without saying, that everything in building material usually carried in stock by first-class yards is to be found there, which includes lime and cement. Mr. Baker's trade is spreading, and his continued success is assured.



A. C. CRUCE'S RESIDENCE.

.....

G. L. CARR, GROCER.

THE business of G. L. Carr is another living, growing evidence of the frugality, thrift and business ingenuity of the Tennessee people, who now inhabit this fair western country. He has moved his feed and grocery store to the cluster of business houses between Indianola Business College and Chickasaw College, late Institute, one-half mile northeast of the railroad depot, and his is a favorite stopping place for the farmer on his way to town. His business is located on the road that leads to the capital city, Tishomingo. He never adds a cent to the legitimate selling price of an article to pay high rents or maintain some useless show; and he is enabled to sell at a lower price than other men in the same business. On this basis, and that of fair dealing to all mankind alike, he has established a good trade and enjoys a comfortable income.

A SUCCESSFUL PHYSICIAN.

....

DR. I. W. FOLSOM was born November 5, 1846, in the Choctaw Nation, twenty miles north of Denison, near Carriage Point. His father stood high in the councils of the Choctaws and served with distinction during the war. The Doctor's education was begun at Paris, Texas, and completed at Washington University, Baltimore, Md. In the interim he attended the Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., and King's College, Bristol, Tenn., afterward practicing as a student in the big Baltimore hospitals for several years. Upon graduating in 1872, he returned to Atoka, Choctaw Nation, built up a splendid practice, later being National Agent under Chief Smallwood, and Secretary of the Medical Board of his Nation. In 1889 he went to Oklahoma City and stood in the front rank in that city as a physician and surgeon during his residence there. Dr. Folsom has made Ardmore his home for several years past, is recognized as one of the city's



DR. I. W. FOLSOM.

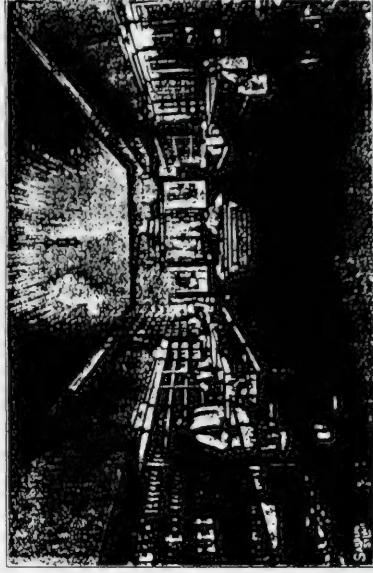
most learned physicians, and his skill as a surgeon is unquestioned. He is also interested extensively in mining and real estate in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

~*~

The Indian Territory is the railroad promoter's paradise.

A PROSPEROUS MAN.

MR. H. G. STONG, a son of Tennessee, and who was a federal office holder in that state for a number of years, is now an adopted son of the Indian Territory, and has made Ardmore his home since 1894. He is proprietor of the Wine Press Store, has a vineyard of three acres in connection, and manufactures grape cider, grape vinegar and church wine, which he sells by wholesale and retail. He possesses a marvelous devotion to his business, and for his family, for whom he has built a lovely home near his store in the northeast part of Ardmore. He made the initial step in this country in the growth of grapes and the manufacture of ciders, etc., and has established an immense business, which has increased from year to year. The close of this season witnesses by far the most prosperous year since the business was established. A line of groceries is also carried in connection, and every business transaction is on the only safe basis—cash.



INTERIOR OF W. B. FRAME'S DRUG STORE.

W. B. Frame has for nearly ten years conducted one of the most extensive drug businesses in the Territory. The building occupied is 21x91 feet, and located in the heart of the business district of Ardmore. The stock carried represents a complete line of wall paper and school books.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL.

COLONEL JOHN S. HAMMER received his appointment as United States Marshal for the Southern District of the Indian Territory from President McKinley, and has thoroughly demonstrated his ability to enforce the laws of his country. The Colonel was born in Marysville, Kentucky, July 13, 1842. Served throughout the war, through all grades, from private to Colonel of the 10th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, being also 2d and then 1st lieutenant of the 19th United States Infantry during this period.

From 1866 to 1873 he was Deputy United States Marshal for the Third Division of the United States Court for the Indian Territory. From 1889 to 1892 he was postmaster of Ardmore, and from 1892 to 1896 the first member of the National Republican Committee for the Indian Territory. Colonel Hammer has passed through the wild and woolly times of the Territory; has seen scores of men die with their boots on, and has witnessed the Territory's evolution from a rendezvous for thugs and murderers into a law-abiding country. His firmness in the rigid enforcement of the law and capture of wrong doers is appreciated by the entire people.

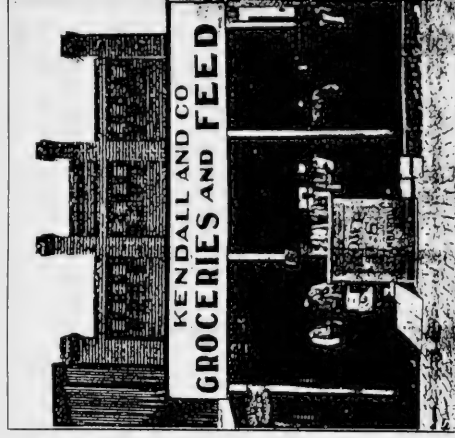
Our people are law-abiding and progressive.



COL. JOHN S. HAMMER.

THE ACKNOWLEDGED LEADER.

MR. J. H. SPIEGLE, who has established an enviable reputation throughout this country as a restaurant keeper and confectioner, came west from Ohio twenty years ago, and has been in Ardmore eight years. He is now the proprietor of Spiegel's Bakery, and has in connection a restaurant, confectionery, soda fountain and ice cream parlor, all of which are located under the same roof on the north side of Main street. His is a favorite resort for the city people, and for travelers as well. He is industrious, practical, and under his own management has established an immense business. His doors are never closed, day or night.



EXTERIOR OF KENDALL & CO.'S STORE.

W. C. Kendall is well qualified by nature and experience for the grocery business. He opened his doors to the public in Ardmore on January 1, 1899, but for twenty years previous he was engaged in the same line in Kentucky. The stock carried is fresh and complete. September 1, he added a queensware and tinware department. Mr. Kendall buys and sells all kinds of country produce, including wheat.

MASTER IN CHANCERY.

....



JUDGE JOHN HINKLE.

IN the appointment by Judge Townsend of Judge John Hinkle as Master in Chancery and Referee in Bankruptcy, the United States District Judge is to be commended and the people of this section to be complimented.

Judge Hinkle is so widely and favorably known to the people of the Indian Territory that it is hardly necessary to say anything concerning his brilliant record as an attorney during his nine years' residence in Ardmore. He was born in Kentucky about sixty years ago, moved to Arkansas at an early age, first working on a farm and later engaging in the mercantile business, and finally being admitted to the bar, in which profession he found his life work, rapidly rising to a position of honor and to an exceptionally extensive practice.

A PLEASANT BUSINESS.

....

LEE WATSON, formerly of the state of California, is now proprietor of the first store to be built in a little town that is being built midway between Indianola Business College and Chickasaw Collegiate Institute, about one-half mile northeast from the main business part of Ardmore. He has a full stock of groceries and feed, and promptly delivers all orders to any part of the city. He has been here five years and has surrounded himself with a host of friends and a prosperous business. He has manifested good judgment in being the first to select this suburban spot as a business site. Located, as it is, on the road that leads to town from the richest and most populous country tributary to Ardmore a vast number of customers are seen every day at Mr. Watson's place of business. And besides this trade his complete stock enables him to compete for the city trade, and of this he gets his share.

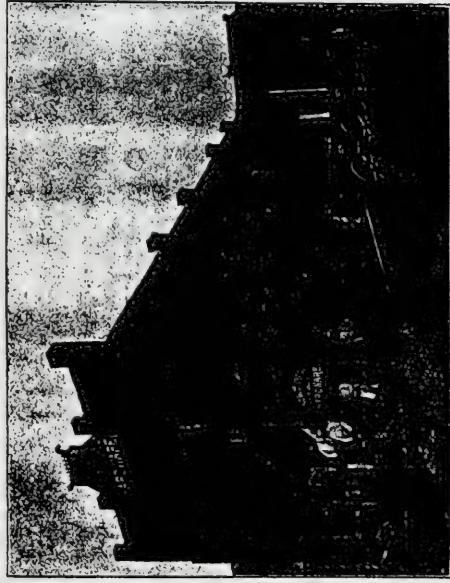
JAS. A. WARD,

Attorney-at-Law.

CRIMINAL LAW A SPECIALTY.

Office in Wacker Building. : ARDMORE, I. T.

NOBLE BROS., HARDWARE.



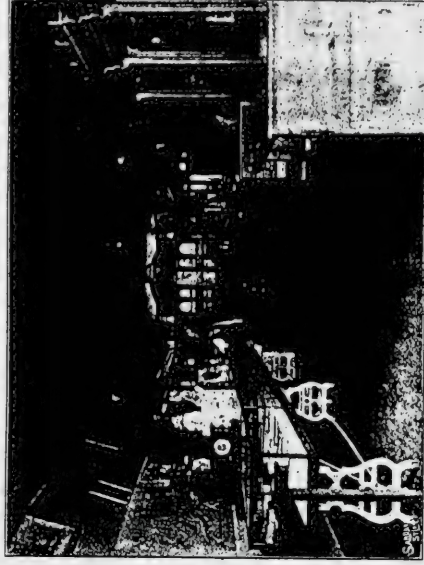
WHEN Ed and Sam Noble came to the Territory twenty years ago, it was the rendezvous for the bad men of the states, but there were some good men and true who ventured here in the early days.

About the year 1893 they established a wholesale grocery business in Ardmore, but, after being burned out, two years later, they entered the hardware line and built a brick building 40x70 near the depot. Later on, as trade got better, they erected an addition facing the Main street 25x90 feet. At this time every available nook and corner of both structures is replete with all the varieties of hardware to be found in other large establishments. A few of their leaders are Deering Harvesters and Mowers, Moon Bros.' Buggies, Studebaker Wagons, and Eagle and Moline Disc Plows, while in building and shelf hardware there is a most complete assortment. The rise of these gentlemen from nearly nothing to their present standing demonstrates their business integrity.

RAMSEY & HARDY, DRUGS.

.....

THIS firm is composed of F. J. Ramsey and Dr. Walter Hardy, the former being an experienced chemist and thoroughly qualified, while Dr. Hardy is one of the leading physicians of the southwest, and enjoys a decidedly extensive practice. Mr. Ramsey started in business here five years ago, having previously resided in Quanah, Texas.



In describing the business of this firm, it is only necessary to state that the stock of goods carried is as large, complete and fresh as any in the city, and the amount of sales each year has proven very satisfactory to the persons most interested.

A word concerning the prescription department: Theodore Huffman, who is in charge of this, the most important branch in pharmacy, is admitted by the local physicians to be one of the most careful as well as skillful prescriptionists in the country.

BRUCE & TORBETT,

Insurance Agents

....

One of the Oldest, One of the Strongest, and One of the Most
Reliable Insurance Agencies in the Southwest - Has
Stood the Test and Been Found Not Wanting.

....

THE insurance agency of Bruce & Torbett is the largest and
strongest in the two Territories. The agency has been brought
into prominence by Ardmore's long list of fires, together with
its prompt and satisfactory settlement of claims.

Mr. Stanley R. Bruce, although still young in years, has
proven himself to be one of Ardmore's foremost business men,
and is recognized as being an insurance man of marked ability.

Mr. Samuel M. Torbett, formerly of Austin, Texas, has only
been connected with the business since last February, but with
his splendid business ability, he has mastered the intricacies of
insurance underwriting, and stands today as one of the best posted
agents in the city.

In writing insurance this firm selects the best and most pow-
erful companies and are therefore enabled to guarantee their
patrons against quibbling and delay in the payment of any loss
covered by one of their policies.

They enjoy the confidence of the insuring public, and you can
do no better than to place your business in their hands. They write
Fire, Tornado, Life, Employer's Liability, Workman's Collective,
Plate Glass and Burglary Insurance, and are also General Agents
for the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore.

Their office is in the First National Bank building, a cut of
which appears on page 12 of this edition.

ARDMORE'S POSTMASTER.

....

MORAN SCOTT is so well and favorably known throughout the
Indian Territory that only a very brief sketch of his life
is necessary. He was born in Gainesville, Texas, Septem-
ber 5, 1863; was a regular attendant of the public schools there
until his sixteenth year, when he went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y.,
and entered Eastman's Business college. Returning home, he
entered the A. & M. college at Bryan, Texas, and graduated in
1883. In September of that year he entered the University of
Texas, at Austin, and took a law course, graduating in 1885. Re-
turning to Gainesville, he began the practice of law and remained
there until 1890, when he moved to Ardmore and established the
law firm of McCaus & Scott. A year later the firm dissolved and
Mr. Scott remained in Ardmore alone in the practice, Mr. Caus
returning to Gainesville.

April 4, 1893, Mr. Scott was appointed United States Com-
missioner at Ardmore by the new Federal judge, Charles B. Stuart,
and straightway entered upon his official duties. The record he
made in this position has never been surpassed. July 15, 1896, he
was appointed postmaster of this city and here, too, find him at-
tending to the arduous duties imposed upon him, by nature of the
office, with the greatest satisfaction to the administration and the
people. Mr. Scott has taken all the degrees in Masonry and visits
the Shrine at Oklahoma regularly.

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ARDMORE merchants are strictly alive and many of our stores
carry stocks far ahead of present demands.

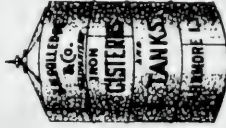
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With the allotment of lands and the appraisement and sale of
city property the inauguration of the most rapid growth on record
in people and wealth will be accredited to the Indian Territory.

J. M. GOLLEDGE & CO.

.....

THE result of earnest, well-directed effort is exemplified in the business career of a young man of this city, who, in less than ten years has risen from the position and pay of a journeyman to the ownership of one of the leading hardware houses in the Indian Territory. We refer to James M. Golledge. In the fall of 1893 this young gentleman received his initiation into the mysteries of the tin and cornice trades. He moved to Ardmore in 1899, first working for the Ardmore Hardware company and, after that company was merged into the Wolverton Hardware company, for the latter people. His remuneration at the start was not quite two dollars every Saturday night. However, Jim had a good home, and, while his father had early instilled in his young breast a spirit of independence, he felt sure of three square meals every day and a good bed at night. Much of his thorough knowledge of the business was acquired while in the employ of several of the largest establishments in Texas, where he lived for some time. Finally, after he had fully made up his mind to launch out in business for himself, his Ardmore employers, realizing his worth, offered him every inducement to remain with them, but to no avail. In August, 1899, Mr. Golledge threw his sign to the breeze in front of a small tin shop on Main street and started out for himself. The following year he built a shop and store on Caddo street (this building he still uses for manufacturing purposes), and at last, on account of his constantly increasing business he has moved into the, just completed, handsome Downing building, opposite the First National Bank. The interior of the present store is fitted with every convenience for the display of the extensive stock carried. Shelving, reaching nearly to the ceiling, extends from the entrance to the rear end, and every available space is filled with everything necessary to supply his customers.



W. A. Pride, who was taken in as a partner three years ago, has the reputation of being one of the most skilled mechanics in the Territory.

J. M. Golledge & Co. is headquarters for the following: Builders' and shelf hardware, cisterns, well tubing, tinware, stoves, cutlery, shot guns, target rifles and ammunition. Also queensware, glassware and lamps. They have in addition a large stock of French china. All kinds of tinware and galvanized ironware are kept in stock, or made to order on short notice. The work that is done by this firm needs little endorsement from us; it speaks for itself. Honest in all things; careful in all things and scrupulously particular that all material and all work shall be exactly as contracted for, it is small wonder that an enviable reputation has been the result. Ask any business man you happen to meet in Ardmore about Jim Golledge, whether he be in the same line or not, and the answer is always about the same. Everybody, hereabouts, knows him, they all like him, and those who have any work to be done in his line know that they will get just what they pay for. We wish especially to impress upon the readers that in the manipulation of tin and galvanized iron Mr. Golledge has no peer. His work in these metals has secured for him words of highest praise from the leading architects, contractors and builders in the country. The cornice designs on most of the finest business buildings in this city are the result of his handiwork. It can also be truthfully said that J. M. Golledge & Co. have secured the contracts for the tin work, roofing, hardware and plumbing on more buildings during the past two years than any other firm in the Territory, extending from Texas into Oklahoma Territory. It is a pretty safe proposition that when the members of a firm understand their business, have spent years in learning it, and are as progressive, painstaking and reliable as are both J. M. Golledge and his partner, the future holds for them no such word as fail, and as Ardmore grows, as her little tributary towns swell in population and importance, the hardware firm of J. M. Golledge & Co. will find it necessary, probably, to again seek larger quarters, for that their business will continue to increase with the growth of the country there is absolutely no doubt.

L. J. JOHNSON, SADDLER.

WOLVERTON GROCERY COMPANY.



....



W. S. WOLVERTON

MR. L. J. JOHNSON conducts one of the most extensive harness and saddle manufacturing establishments in the Indian Territory. Those contemplating purchasing anything worn by man's best friend, the horse, should take the time to examine his stock. You will be surprised to find harness, saddles and other leather goods much cheaper than sold at many other places.

MR. W. S. WOLVERTON, manager of the Wolverton Grocery Company, is a native of Tennessee, came to Ardmore in 1893, and one year later established the firm which bears his name. His place of business has always been, since the start, just where it is now, at the corner of Main and Minco streets. His two sons are in business with him, and are capable young men. In the matter of stock, it can be stated that everything usually carried by up-to-date grocers is to be found here. The annual sales are getting larger each year and are the surest indication of the straight business methods of the firm. Oats, corn, hay and all kinds of country produce are bought.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER.



HON. S. B. BRADFORD

HON. S. B. BRADFORD was appointed United States Commissioner for the Southern district by United States District Judge Townsend. He has held more positions of trust and honor than any man living in the Indian Territory.

Judge Bradford was born in Vinton county, Ohio, July 19, 1847. The family lived alternately in Kansas, Iowa and Missouri while he was still quite young. His education was received at the Missouri State University. In 1868 he began to study law, and taught school in the interim for the following eight years. In 1874 he was admitted to the bar. He served the people of Kansas for years in the following capacities: Legislature, '74 to '76; county attorney, '80 to '82; was also first clerk of Court of Appeals just before moving to the Territory; attorney general from '84 to '86, and re-elected for a second term. During the four years he was

attorney general he enforced the prohibitory laws to the letter, being forced in some instances to appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, before which tribunal his opinions were never reversed. The judge has been a life-long Republican and an active worker for the party, having campaigned the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York and Missouri. He came to South McAlester about two years ago, but moved to Ardmore last October, when he received his appointment as United States commissioner. Judge Bradford holds a certificate entitling him to practice in all courts from the District Court of Kansas to the Supreme Court of the United States.



WHY some supposedly wide-awake business men are contented with six per cent. returns on invested capital when they can realize more than double the profit by investing in a dozen different enterprises hereabouts, is beyond our ken.

.....

H. H. BROWN.

BROWN & MASON, Attorneys at Law.

Office Over First National Bank, Ardmore, I. T.



Prompt and Careful Attention to both Criminal and Civil Business.

Will Practice in All the Courts.

Collections, both Local and Foreign, Given Strict Attention.

THE MANNSVILLE COUNTRY

In Washita River Bottoms. The Most Productive Soil in the Indian Territory.

THE TOWN OF MANNSVILLE.

TWENTY miles due east of Ardmore, in the Chickasaw Nation, is the little village of Mannsville, nestling among the trees and presenting a decidedly picturesque appearance to the traveler. Capt. B. F. Mann was the first to establish a store there, this was in July, 1887. There are now three general stores, two groceries, two blacksmith shops, one drug store and a long distance telephone. The Christians and Methodists each have a house of worship. There is a Masonic and a Woodmen of the World Lodges, and there are also ample school facilities, as well as a first-class gin. The present population numbers about 200 people, who are of the better class.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY

This section is a part of the famous Washita Bottoms, noted for the exceptional fertility of its soil and consequent big crops. The general character of the country is wooded, and nearly all the cultivated lands show unmistakable signs of having been wrenched from the virgin forests. On either side of the Washita River, which pursues its meandering course within a half mile of the village; the soil is exceptionally productive, being a rich, dark, sandy loam. The crops raised are in great part corn and cotton, though small grain, such as wheat and oats, do well. It is said that this section has never had a failure of crops, certainly quite an exception to many other regions. Fruits of all kinds grow to perfection, and altogether a man might go farther and fare much worse than by casting his lot and making his home in this favored spot. With the coming of more railroads into the country,

Mannsville and her tributary country will undoubtedly have improved railroad facilities, which will tend to make farming still more profitable, on account of a shorter haul to market, or rather to the railroad. Land at this time cannot be purchased, though leases may be secured from those having "rights" at from \$1.00 to \$2.50 per acre per annum. However, it will be only a short time before the lands are allotted, and a right to sell same guaranteed under treaty between the Chickasaws and the United States Government.

W. B. Scrimshire, the leading merchant of Mannsville, will gladly answer any further inquiries concerning his locality.



W. B. SCRIMSHIRE & CO.

....

THE leading general merchandise business of a large scope of country surrounding the village of Mannsville is done by W. B. Scrimshire & Co., of that place. W. B. Scrimshire, the subject of this sketch, was raised in Red River county, Texas. He worked on the farm during his youth, finally coming to Woodford, I. T., in 1887, where he continued to till the soil and incidentally raise stock. He cast his lot with the destinies of the Mannsville people January 10, 1893, and, one year after taking up his residence there, he opened a general merchandise store in what is known as Russell's old building. Mr. Scrimshire, being a man well qualified for business, made money almost from the start, and the following year in June, 1895, he moved into a handsome building, which he had built on the "rise," just east of the business part of the town. This store is the one now occupied by the firm, and in every respect it exceeds the trading places of the neighborhood. The store fronts 28 feet on the main street, and extends back 80 feet, but, mind you, this large floor space is none too large for the stock carried by this enterprising firm. The wants of the farmers, who so generally do their buying at this

place, is well known, and there is nothing usually carried in stock by the largest general merchandise stores which cannot be found here, plain and fancy dress goods, silks, satins, laces, trimmings, ladies' and gents' shoes, an assortment of latest millinery, which would not be out of place in a big city establishment. (Clothing, gents' furnishing goods, etc., all are there, and in greatest profusion. Then, in the matter of prices, Mr. Scrimshire believes in the 'live' and let live policy, and does not think it right, or good business, to charge different prices to different people. A legitimate profit on all goods sold is good enough for him, and he practices what he preaches. Every fall he is an extensive cotton buyer, as well as a buyer of all other farm products.

H. M. FOSTER, GINNER.

A DESCRIPTION of Mammville and her people would not be complete with W. M. Foster, the ginner, left out. He is identified with every movement for the good of his adopted home, and a man who is widely known and respected for his many sterling qualities. He was born in the Blue Grass State of Kentucky, Morgan county, August 18, 1855, and it was not until after he had attained his majority that he left his native state, moving to Clay county, Indiana, in 1877, where he engaged in the coal business. After a residence there of about seven years he moved to Ford county, Ill., finally coming to Texas six years later. In 1895, he migrated to Holder, Ind. Ter., and a little later made his home in Mammville. February 14, 1898, he started in the mill and gin business there, he also operates a grist and saw mill. The writer, on a recent trip to this little town, was shown through Mr. Foster's plant, and was surprised to see it so thoroughly equipped with every essential for performing the work designed for it. Mr. Foster is an enterprising business man, and believes in doing well whatever he undertakes. He has great faith in the future of his section, and so have we.

BERWYN'S MANUFACTORIES.

THOUGH there are but 350 people living in Berwyn, there are manufacturing interests worthy of note. We refer to the different plants operated by Suggs Bros., and managed by Hugh Suggs. The idea of furnishing the locality with a cheap, good lumber from the native woods was carried out by the erection of a saw mill in the town of Berwyn, where cotton wood timber is cut up into merchantable lumber and sold at a great saving to the purchaser. This sawmill, while not at this time operated on a large scale, will no doubt be called upon to such an extent in the near future as to make its enlargement a necessity. Adjoining this mill is a flour mill, a corn mill and a gin. The flour made is first-class, as is also the meal, and both have proven of great convenience to the farmer. The cotton gin is a large one with a capacity sufficient to handle the crop for miles around.

THE farmer who is satisfied with half a loaf should keep out of the Indian Territory.

THE only regret experience by those who have made their homes here is that they didn't come before.

THIS country around here isn't Heaven, but it may be mistaken for it by many who will soon come here.

THERE is no such word as fail in the vocabulary of any man who is not afraid of work—if he lives in the Chickasaw Nation.

BERWYN SURROUNDINGS.

....

A Growing Little Place on the Santa Fe Railway, Surrounded by
a Rich Farming Country.

....

THE TOWN OF BERWYN.

TEN miles north of Ardmore, on the line of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway, is the flourishing little village of Berwyn. The business of the place is done by six general stores, two drug stores, one grocery, two mills and gins, one livery stable, one saw mill, one flour mill and one lumber yard. There are, at this time, about 350 people living there, the great majority of whom are of the better class.

Extending along the western edge of the town runs a bluff some 100 feet in height; this is the dividing line between the fertile Washita bottoms and the high, healthful prairie. Berwyn, lying practically on this dividing line, is favored from the fact that those residing there can live on the prairie and cultivate the rich soil of the bottoms simultaneously.

THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY.

The country adjacent to Berwyn is, as stated, prairie on one side and valley on the other. The valley land is exceptionally fertile, being a part of the Washita River bottoms, this stream being one and one-half miles from the town. The soil is a rich, chocolate loam, easily cultivated and with a producing capacity possibly equalled, but not excelled, by any other section of the Indian Territory. In the matter of crops, as in most of the neighboring districts, corn and cotton still compose the royal family, but all of the small grains are prolific in their yield. The bottom country is wooded to a great extent, but as more tillers of the soil discover this choice location, much of the timber which is still

standing will be cut down and the whole landscape changed from wood and field to all field.

The prairie offers many inducements peculiarly its own. The altitude, the absence of all obstructions to the breezes, and the fact that in richness, the soil, while not the equal of that lying in bottoms, is, at the same time, capable of growing all of the products mentioned as profusely as nine-tenths of so-called fine farming lands. Ample school and church facilities are in evidence in, and near, Berwyn, so that the education of the young and the spiritual welfare of all are well looked after. Lovers of sport will find in the Arbuckle Mountains nearby, and up on the open prairie plenty of game, while the Washita River, Caddo and Cool Creeks abound in fish. In fact, it is a custom among the neighborhood people to make up parties during the heated months and spend several days camping out on the banks of the different streams, catching members of the funny tribe, shooting quail, plover, prairie chicken, wild turkey, and occasionally a deer. This is a God given pleasure, and builds and tones up the general health like nothing else that we know of. To give an idea of the products raised in the Berwyn locality, it may be stated that after supplying the local market, there was shipped from there this year 15,000 bushels of corn, 35,000 bushels of oats, about 12,000 bushels of wheat, and the cotton shipments will reach 2400 bales. This is a conservative estimate, and the fact must also be borne in mind that much of the stuff raised was not taken to Berwyn, but hauled elsewhere, and also that not one-tenth of the land that is susceptible of the highest state of cultivation has ever been touched by the axe or plow. Said a man the other day who lives in Berwyn, "Taking everything into consideration I would not trade my farm and home here for anything I know of. I can get the advantage of the most healthful of places for my house and the richest of soil to farm in close touch of each other." This man had his home on the prairie and his farm in the valley. Now, for the benefit of the newcomer, it should be borne in mind that at the present time land cannot be purchased. When, however, these lands are allotted to those having "rights" it will be possible to secure a good title to as much land as one has money to pay for. It is hard to estimate

what this fertile valley land will sell for per acre, but probably somewhere from \$10 to \$20 per acre, according to location. In the meantime, for the next year or so, the best thing for the homeseeker to do will be to rent what land he cares to put in cultivation, which can be done for about \$2 per acre, and then keep his eyes open for a future home. Either Mr. King, Mr. Warren or Mr. Hugh Sugess, whose biographies will be found elsewhere in this booklet, will take pleasure in answering any letters asking for further information concerning their locality. They are well acquainted with the country for miles around and anything they say may be implicitly relied upon.

FELIX J. KING.

Berwyn, Ind. Ter.

.....

IN enterprise and progressive spirit, the subject of this sketch,

Felix J. King, has no peer in his, or any other neighborhood. True, he is young, and youth, bright hopes and lofty ambition are supposed to be akin, but we would remark that occasionally one runs across a young man with a decidedly luxuriant growth of moss in the region of his vertebra; but to resume, Mr. King first saw the light of day in Murray county, Tenn., on July 3, 1872. After going through the usual trials and pleasures of boyhood he left his native state, moving to Johnson county, Texas, at the age of eighteen. After his arrival in the big state, he turned his attention to farming, the raising of stock, and at the same time conducted a drug and livery business. All of these ventures were remunerative, and he accumulated considerable money. Later he came to Berwyn, which place he has since made his home. Realizing that there was a good opening for a drug store, he invested considerable capital in a large stock, and opened up one of the most completely fitted drug stores in the Chickasaw Nation. Mr. King is an experienced druggist, and his business has been most

satisfactory. His marriage to Miss Callie Boyd in 1897 has been blessed with one child. By this union he became a Chickasaw, through his talented young wife. He is an extensive land owner, and manages his property, rents and cattle interests personally. Several hundred acres of his fine prairie land lie close to Berwyn, and the remainder includes within its bounds the famous Oil Springs, situated about seven miles east of Berwyn, widely recognized for their medicinal worth.

W. F. WARREN,

Mayor of Berwyn, Ind. Ter.

.....

A YOUNG man of sterling worth, with the brightest of prospects and honored by the highest position in the gift of his fellow-townsmen, such is W. F. Warren of Berwyn. Thirty-five years ago he was born in Baltimore, Md. He came to the Chickasaw Nation when still in his teens, but did not make Berwyn his home until 1890. He was married eleven years ago and has three children. For a long time Mr. Warren worked on a farm and gained the thorough knowledge of husbandry which has proven so useful to him in recent years. At this time he has about 1000 acres in cultivation, as well as extensive stock interests. For three years he served as post master and was finally elected mayor April 4, 1899. Since his acceptance of this last official position he has proven to all his excellent qualifications for the work of making and enforcing the municipal laws of the town. For the past three years his principal business has been the buying of cotton and grain, most of these crops, raised near Berwyn, passing through his hands. He also deals in cattle and hogs and has made a decided success in all of his business undertakings. Mr. Warren is a Mason, a thorough gentleman and has the respect and love of all who know him.

THE LIVE LITTLE TOWN OF DURWOOD.

.....

TWELVE miles due east of Ardmore the traveler enters the little town of Durwood, which nestles cozily among the trees and gives every evidence of the prosperity and contentment of its inhabitants. The town is now ten years old and consists of several stores which line both sides of the main street, though it is probable that these buildings will soon be moved to the square place as J. W. McLaughlin, dealer in general merchandise, who came there eight years ago; Arnold Bros., in the same business, who cast their lot there in 1896, and J. C. Lowe, also general merchandise, who opened up for business one year earlier. or in 1895. These men are progressive in the truest sense of the word and are the material needed in any community which has the natural advantages which Durwood possesses for rapid growth in both population and wealth. Dr. Frank Bates is the leading physician of the neighborhood and a man eminently qualified by education and training for the care of the sick. There is at this time one school, but it is probable that another will be added within a few months to more adequately instruct the children of this locality. Considering the fact that Durwood claims only 300 inhabitants, the different church organization are very well represented, there being already the following places of worship: Missionary Baptist, Free Will Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Christian.

It is probable that the town will incorporate as soon as the appraisers have completed the work of laying out the town.

Concerning the surrounding country tributary to Durwood too much can not be said. The soil is a rich sandy loam and the yield of corn, cotton, oats and wheat will compare favorably with that of any part of the Indian Territory. There is considerable timber still uncut, and much good soil consequently untilled, but with the allotment of Indian lands there will be immense crops raised in this favored locality. Farming lands may be rented at this time at from \$1.00 to \$2.50 per acre. There is an abundance of fine,

pure drinking water as well as plenty of stock water from creeks and tanks and, taken, all in all, the prospective homeseeker will here find every requisite necessary for peace, health, happiness and prosperity.

All inquiries relative to this section will be gladly answered by any of the above named gentlemen.



FRANK BATES, M. D.,

Physician & Surgeon,

— DURWOOD, IND. TER.

.....

ARNOLD BROS.,

Dealers in General Merchandise, Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hardware, Stationery, Etc.

DURWOOD. : : : IND. TER.

.....

J. C. LOWE,



DEALER IN

.. General Merchandise ..

Fine Clothing and Gents' Furnishings. DURWOOD, IND. TER.

.....

J. W. McLAUGHLIN,

General Merchandise, Drugs, Farm Implements, Machinery.

DURWOOD, IND. TER.

THE OAKLAND PRAIRIE COUNTRY.

Embracing Over One Hundred Square Miles of Finest Black Land—The Town of Oakland—Description of the Most Favored Section of the Chickasaw Nation—Its Soil, Water Supply and Healthfulness—Its Churches, Schools and People.

OAKLAND, PICKENS COUNTY.

SITUATED about midway between the Santa Fe and M., K. & T. railroads, in the Chickasaw Nation, is the flourishing little town of Oakland. There are at this time perhaps a baker's dozen of men engaged in mercantile business there, a few of the leading merchants being represented in this book. The main street now runs north and south, but a new location, in the form of a square, has been laid off for the Oakland of the future, most of the business men of the place having purchased sites on one or the other of its four sides, and it is probable that before another twelve months have passed many new buildings will have been erected in the new business section of the town.

The population is about 600; the people being of the better class and law abiding. There are two churches, two schools and two fine gins. Oakland is also the county seat of Pickens county. Many of the homes recently built are even elegant in design and represent an outlay of thousands of dollars.

When we state that the people of Oakland are of the better class we fall below what we want to impress upon the reader; they are, in education, refinement, energy and progressive spirit equal, if not superior, to any like number of men to be found in the Indian Territory; and these are the traits which will insure every effort being made to advance the town's interest as fast as possible.

The future of Oakland is as bright as a new gold dollar. It is conceded by the most conservative that both the G. M. & St. L. and the Arkansas and Choctaw railroads will enter the town possibly within one year. The advent of these roads will work a magical change. The village of the present will suddenly burst forth into a growing, throbbing, vigorous young city; teeming

with life and energy. The sounds of industry, the saw, the hammer and the whistle will soon combine to make sweetest music for those who have been waiting patiently for the change which they felt sure must some day take place.

THE PRAIRIE COUNTRY.

For miles on every side of Oakland is a prairie, which, in soil and healthfulness has no equal in the Chickasaw Nation. The soil is rich and black, entirely free from rocks and stumps and capable of raising an abundance of everything that grows. Cotton, corn, wheat, oats, sorghum and millet always make good crops, while fruits of all kinds mature with little or no care at all. Now that it is an assured fact that at least two railroads will traverse this country the farmer can raise wheat for the market, as well as many other products which, on account of the long haul to the railroad heretofore necessary, he could not profitably do. We do not wish to belittle any other section, or locality, in the Indian Territory; in fact, from personal knowledge, we know that, taking the Territory as a whole, it will not suffer by comparison with any other state or territory in the Union; what we do believe, and what is generally conceded by all who have visited the country we are describing, is the unquestionable fact that the Oakland prairie country holds out more inducements in soil and climate, than any other portion of the Territory. Let us try to describe it.

After a long, tedious drive of nearly twenty miles over poor roads, macadamized with sand and stumps, with the summer breeze shut off by stunted timber, the traveler finally reaches the prairie eight miles east of Oakland. The spirits are at once raised (not to the mouth) even the horses seem to take renewed interest in their work and you go bowling along over a good.

smooth road, the gentle cooling zephyrs fanning your heated brow and making mere existence a pleasure. Here and there along the roadside is a farm with its neat, comfortable buildings and broad, outlying fields of cotton, corn and small grain. As the little town draws nearer, the farms are more numerous and the improvements more substantial. Away off on the prairie, nearly as far as the eye can reach, are to be seen patches of green and little white specks of houses, relieving the monotonous appearance of the unbroken prairie. Beyond, and to the north, are low mountains; to the south, but not visible, is Red river, some twenty miles from Oakland.

There are at least 100 square miles of territory included in the Oakland Prairie and tributary to the town. Water is plentiful, most of the people using well water, which is found in absolutely unlimited quantities from 20 to 75 feet below the surface. This water, while in some instances a little hard, in others is found to be nearly as soft as rain water and is universally healthful, judging from the limited amount of sickness.

That artesian water can be procured, there is no question; the water in some surface wells, sunk a little deeper than usual, has often risen to within a few feet of the top of the ground, though, up to this time, a thorough test for flowing water has not been made.

A point which will be appreciated by those who have had experience is that, in the event of a long dry season, the black, rich, prairie land sustains vegetation without injury when the crops growing in other soils suffer and sometimes utterly fail. This black soil, once it gets thoroughly saturated with water, retains enough moisture for months to nourish vegetation. At a rough guess, there are, perhaps, 100,000 acres of these fine farming lands which may be secured now, by lease, and later on, when the latter are allotted, by purchase. The average rental price per acre is about \$2.00, though some very desirable land can be rented for one-half of this amount. When the Indians, and those holding Indian rights, secure their property in severalty they will have the right under the treaty to dispose of a certain per cent of same after twelve months, and as each will be entitled to several

hundred acres, it is certain they will take advantage of this opportunity to realize cash from a source which many of them consider almost valueless. Ten dollars an acre for the average tillable land is a conservative estimate of what it will be possible to purchase farming land for when purchasing becomes a possibility. Lumber sells in Ardmore for about sixteen dollars, with hauling added, while other building materials are as reasonable there as Texas points. We predict, however, that many of the finest houses of the future in this part of the Territory will be built of stone, and the finest kind of stone at that, quarried at home within a short haul of Oakland. Once let some man take the initiative and others will follow, especially as the cost of the local stone and its superior quality form potent factors.

Beds of asphaltum of the very finest quality lie within a mile of the town, furnishing one tangible reason for the prediction of Oakland's bright future. Suppose, as is nearly certain, that these asphalt deposits furnish material for paving the streets of many of the cities of the South, and North too, for that matter. Will not this industry alone require the expenditure of an immense amount of money for labor? These laborers will secure their necessities from the town. And as one thing brings another, so it will prove in this instance; the more thickly settled country, the availability of cheap (good) coal from the McAlester mines and the general prosperity of all, will combine to furnish sufficient inducement to the capitalist to start new enterprises, factories and all those things which are sure to locate in such a favored spot. Some people will say that this is all visionary—that they are from Missouri and that they will have to be shown; to all of which we would make reply, that the result will be as predicted for these reasons. The population of the United States is yearly being augmented by about one million; the older sections are already thickly populated; land and taxes are high; the good territory still untouched, or comparatively so, is getting more and more limited each succeeding year; thousands upon thousands of men and their families are dissatisfied with their present surroundings and need only to be shown the way and they will follow as the day follows the night.

Many an instance is called to mind where localities, much less endowed by an allwise Providence with all that tends to make life worth the living, have increased ten, yes, one hundred, fold in population and wealth in a marvelously short time. These, too, as stated, without nearly the inducements of the place in question.

Think, ye inhabitants of the frozen North, think of sitting on your verandas in mid-winter, with your coat off and in perfect comfort, yet you can do it here. Imagine, ye umrods, who are accustomed to travel across several states in quest of game, think of shooting prairie chickens within sight of your home, of bagging wild turkey and the mountain buck within a few miles of the ground you till for a living; this you may also do here. Then, also, bear in mind, you mother and fathers, that here your children will grow and develop into strong men and women, untroubled by that foul demon, malaria, will grow up in this sun-kissed land of plenty, surrounded by all the comforts, even luxuries, of life, and you, in your old age, will find sweet comfort in the reflection that you heeded our advice and exchanged the hardships arising from so many causes which surrounded you and made a home in your old age for yourself and offspring, which assures for you more of life's blessings than any other spot on God's green earth.

MR. L. J. BAILEY.

Oakland, Ind. Ter.

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THE subject of this sketch is one of Oakland's most energetic citizens, and has great faith in the bright future of his adopted home. He, like other deserving men of his community, has done well since he took up his residence there, and he keeps the world informed, through the columns of the Ardmoreite, of all local happenings.

CAPT. R. C. WIGGS.

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CAPTAIN R. C. WIGGS is as well known in the Oakland neighborhood as anybody, having made it his home since 1876, at which time he moved there from Grayson county, Texas, though he is a Tennessean by birth. He married his present wife, Miss Josie Lawson, April 11, 1886, and has one child, Edna, by her. Has two sons, W. W. and H. B. Wiggs, by first



marriage, both of whom are engaged in farming and stock raising. Captain Wiggs has surrounded himself with all the comforts and even luxuries of life. His home, in the suburbs of the town, is a revelation to the stranger; the house is large, well built and comfortable, while surrounding it are extensive lawns, dotted here and there with huge trees, lifting their giant arms skyward. In all, the Captain must own nearly 4000 acres of land, and he says he doesn't want to sell a foot of it, for which he can hardly be blamed, as his possessions embrace some of the most valuable lands in the Chickasaw Nation.

J. E. DILLINGHAM, MERCHANT.

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IDENTIFIED with the whole section around Oakland is J. E. Dillingham, the leading merchant of the town. This gentleman was born in Texas, but came to Oakland in 1890, and at once engaged in his present business. At the start, nine years ago, there were not near as many people inhabiting this section as there are now. The farms were far apart, and a straggling few were all that the Oakland merchants could count on for their business. However, Mr. Dillingham is conceded a very level-headed man, and when he dumped his first stock of goods there, he counted, not so much on the present as on the future. He knew that such a magnificent country must some day be peopled with a thrifty class of farmers, and that the location of the town insured its receiving a great portion of the trade.

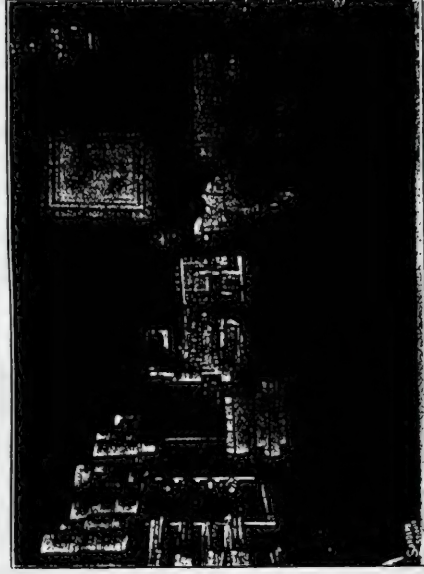
And he was right; today sees a different state of affairs there from any that ever existed before. Two railroads have selected the town for one of their principal points. The country has been settling up rapidly, and, naturally, the town of Oakland and all of her enterprising merchants have been likewise expanding. J. E. Dillingham is doing a most satisfactory mercantile business, as well as being interested extensively in farming and stock raising. In his store he carries a stock of goods that would be creditable in a good sized city, and in price and quality, there is nothing

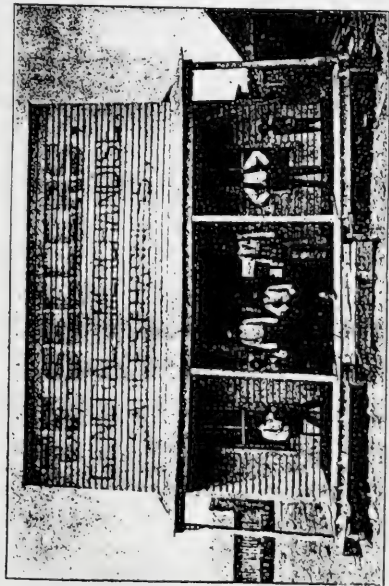
ing to be saved by making purchases away from home. An idea of the magnitude of the stock may be gained from the illustration on this page, though much of the store cannot be seen. During the season he is an extensive buyer of cotton; in fact, he handles everything raised by the farmer, and universally pays top market prices for what he purchases. There is no man in the Chickasaw Nation more popular than is the subject of this sketch, and this is one reason for the splendid success that has been his. People like to trade with men whom

they know to be their personal friends, and he is a friend to all. In fact, it may be said with truth, that if a man goes to Mr. Dillingham and explains his inability to pay an account, he will be treated as he should be. This merchant believes in doing as you would be done by, and knows full well that while man proposes God disposes; that sometimes a customer will get in a tight place in spite of all he can do, and this being the case, he will tell him not to worry himself, but to do the best he can, and when he wants anything in the way of merchandise, not to be afraid to ask for it. The farmer appreciates this kind of talk, and will go out of his way to pay this man every cent he owes him; and to this kindly spirit, as well as to his excellent business qualifications, Mr. Dillingham is indebted in a large measure for his success.

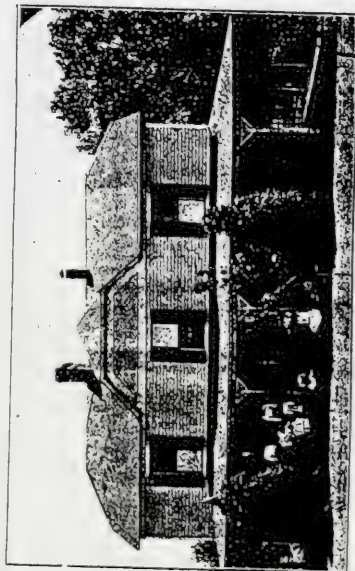
.....

No NEED of looking farther. If you can't keep meat and bread in the house here, you may as well resign and step down.



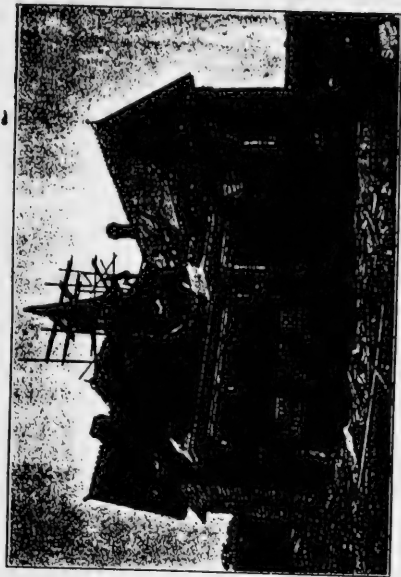


T. F. SELLERS was born in South Carolina twenty-nine years ago. He came to Oakland in September, 1882, and established his present business. By fair dealing and an upright, honorable course, he has gained many friends and customers, and ere long will control a business second to none in the place.



RESIDENCE OF ED SACRA, JR.

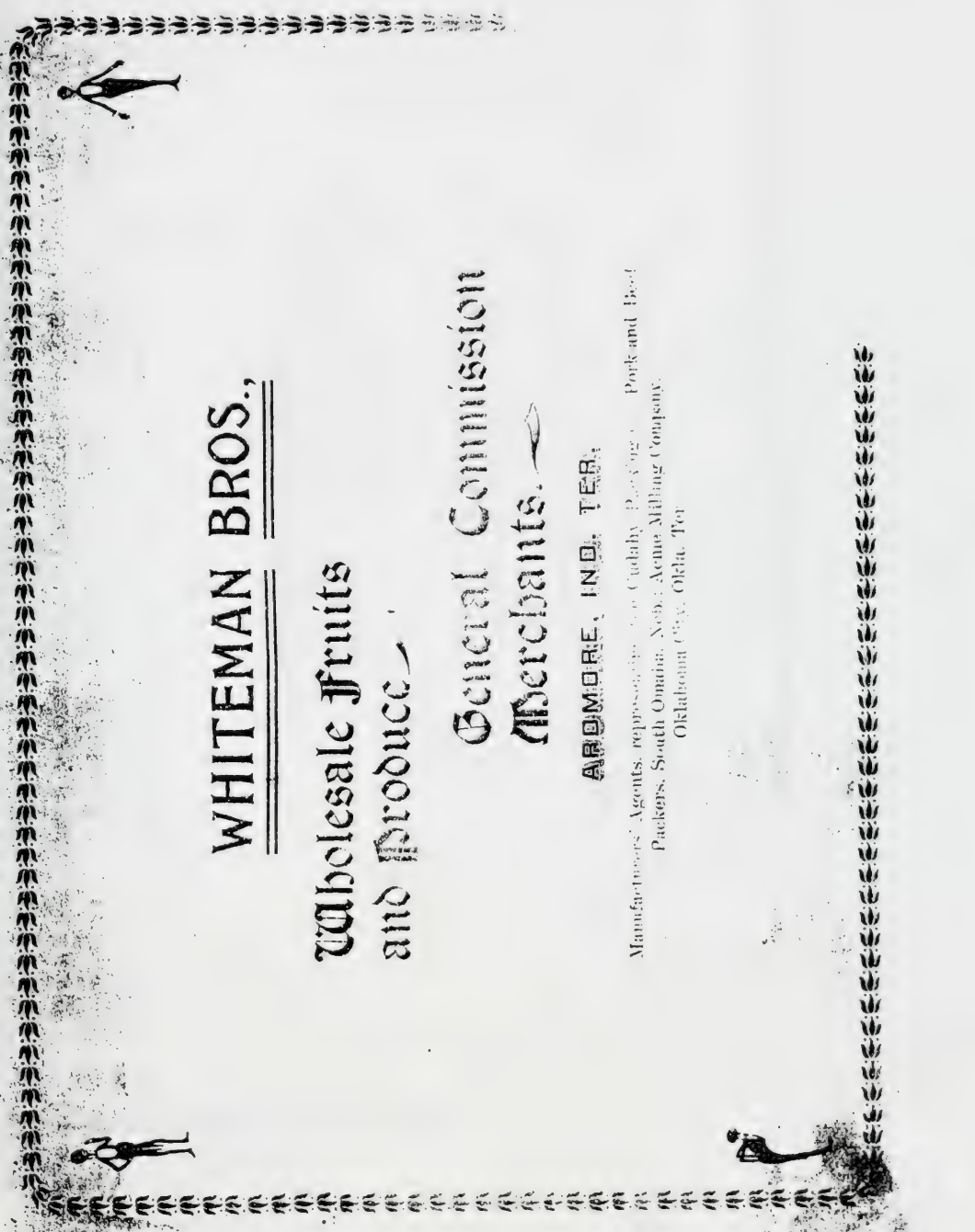
Mr. Ed Sacra, Jr., was born in Oregon County, Texas, and moved with his father to Oakland over twenty years ago. In 1881 he opened the first business house in the town, and has ever since been identified with the town's best interests. His farm and stock interests are extensive. Mr. Sacra has a most charming family.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN L. WOODY.

Mr. Woody is an inter-married citizen of the Chickasaw tribe by his first wife. He has an important official position in the Nation, and is universally popular. Mr. Woody and his wife will have one of the most comfortable homes when completed. He owns a fine farm near Oakland, from which he has made a snug fortune.





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